Daily Report

Latin America

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CONTENTS

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

C. American Presidents To Hold 7 August Summit *[ACAN]* 1
Andean Group Position on Drug Trafficking *[EFE]* 1

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Coup, 'Causes for Instability' in Haiti Viewed 2

Dominican Republic

Deposed Haitian President Manigat Arrives *[AFP]* 2
Venezuela Grants Asylum *[EFE]* 2
Deputy Foreign Minister Cited *[Buenos Aires REUTER]* 2
Manigat Holds News Conference 3
Further on News Conference 3
Balaguer Asked To Intervene on Haitians' Behalf 3
Legislator Supports Balaguer, Urges Unity 3
Agreement Freezes Rice Prices for 6 Months 4

Grenada

Prime Minister Concerned About Coup in Haiti 4

Haiti

Further on Situation in Wake of Military Coup 4
Namphy Addresses Nation 4
Explains Power Seizure 5
Airport Reportedly Closed *[AFP]* 5
Situation in Capital 5
Decree Dissolves Parliament *[AFP]* 6
Decree Names New Ministers 6
Further on Cabinet *[AFP]* 7
Army Promotions, Changes *[AFP]* 7
MDN Head Makes Statement 8
New Tax Administration Officials Installed 8
Radio Caraibes To Operate With New Transmitter 8

St Lucia

Opposition Leader Urges Caricom Summit on Haiti 8

MEXICO

Visit By Nicaragua's Tinoco Continues 9
Sepulveda on C.A. Talks 9
Visit Ends 9
Communique Issued at End of Meeting With Belize 9
Government To Maintain Petroleum Export Rate *[EL DIA 16 Jun]* 10
Pemex Announces Extension of Debt Payments *[EXCELSIOR 16 Jun]* 10
Official Notes Need To Expand Uranium Reserves *[THE NEWS 14 Jun]* 10

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

Duarte To Return in July To Resume Duties *[AFP]* 11
ARENA Denies Blandon Charge of Promoting Coup *[ACAN]* 11

Nicaragua

Ortega Criticizes IMF Economic Formulas 11

Panama

Ritter Says No Plans To Break U.S. Relations *[EFE]* 11
Further on U.S. Actions 12
Addresses at Anti-Imperialist Groups Meeting 13
Foreign Minister Ritter 13
Major Delgado 14
PRD's Salas 15
Dominican CP's Tavera 16

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Vice President on Local Issues, Arms Sales 19
Briefs 19
New Peronist Party Founded 19

Bolivia

Planters Reject Government Eradication Plan 19

Brazil

Sarney Announces Request for New Japanese Aid *[O GLOBO 20 Jun]* 20
Sodre on U.S. Retaliation, Sarney Trip to PRC 20
Labor Court Rules URP Decree Unconstitutional 20
Finance Minister To Visit, Canada, U.S., Japan 20
PLO Leader To Visit Country 23-29 June *[EFE]* 21
Recent Poll Shows Majority Support for Sarney 21
Police Uncover Lebanese Cocaine 'Connection' 21
Briefs 21
World Bank Approves Loan 21

Chile

Justice Minister Links No Vote to Marxism 21
Sergio Buschmann Dossier Delivered to Interpol 22
Maritime Police Find Weapons Aboard Fishing Boat 22

Colombia

M-19 Demands Participation in National Dialogue *[AFP]* 22
President Appoints New Justice Minister *[DPA]* 22

Peru

Garcia Discusses Contraband With Officials 23
Finance Minister Speaks on New Measures 23
Shining Path Commemorates 'Heroism Day' 25
Work Stoppage in Ayacucho *[EFE]* 25
Bomb Explosions in Lima *[EFE]* 25
300 Strikers Detained on 1st Day of Strike *[EFE]* 26

Uruguay

Cuban Official To Iron Out 'Delicate' Situation *[EFE]* 26

Guyana

First Crop Sugar Production Below Target 26
Advisory Environmental Council Established 27

Suriname

Brazilian Delegation Departs After Debt Talks 27
Creditors Agree to Debt Restructuring Proposal 28
Minister Expects More Financial Support 28
Assembly Asks Government To Improve Conditions 28
Amends Opium Law 28
Lachmon Urges Special Import Exchange Rates 28
Organization on Lachmon Remarks on Transfers 29
Suralco Workers Sign Agreement With Company 29
Union Elected To Represent Victoria Workers 29

C. American Presidents To Hold 7 August Summit

PA1906170688 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1625 GMT 19 Jun 88

[Excerpt] San Jose, 19 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica have agreed to meet on 7 August, a year after signing the Esquipulas II agreements approved by the presidents in 1987 and aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the region's problems.

The information, unofficially disclosed some days ago by several political sectors, was confirmed last night by Guatemalan Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicole.

Carpio Nicole made the statement at the hotel where he spent the night before returning to his country this morning. He added that Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez had "agreed" to meet with his isthmian colleagues in Guatemala City, as officially proposed by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo.

Carpio Nicole said that the proposal was also accepted by acting Salvadoran President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

Arias had previously talked about the importance of another round of talks among the political leaders of the region. A week ago, after the dialogue between the Sandinists and the "contras" failed, Arias once more insisted on the need for the five Central American presidents "to meet again." [passage omitted]

Andean Group Position on Drug Trafficking

PY2006034388 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1953 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] La Paz, 18 Jun (EFE)—During the meeting of the Andean Parliament with U.S. State Department officials and OAS members, to begin in Washington on 20 June, the Andean countries will take the position that cocaine trafficking must not overshadow all other aspects of relations with the United States.

Congressmen from Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela have drafted a document in which they state that the drug trafficking problem "must be regarded together with the other problems of the Andean countries and not as a separate matter."

The document states that by not allowing bilateral relations with the United States to be overshadowed by the cocaine issue it will be possible for drug trafficking and consumption to be considered "a political and structural problem that requires an overall solution."

The document adds that no legal instrument will be sufficient to reduce drug production and proposes that governments offer jobs to "peddlers." It establishes the differences between "the necessary production of coca leaves" aimed at traditional consumption for medical, mythical-religious, and industrial purposes," and "that which is used to produce cocaine sulphate and cocaine hydrochloride." [quotation marks as received]

The document states that the struggle cannot continue "from a purely repressive approach." It must also seek to control the "channels through which money obtained from illegal drug trafficking is laundered."

The United States "has the political and ethical duty to set an example by putting an end to the production of marijuana," and "it is also its duty to reduce drug consumption, which is one of the links in the economic chain of drug trafficking."

The document says that "advertising has legalized" drug consumption in the United States and that the cultural framework supports and encourages drug consumption. Therefore, the document adds, the United States has to curb demand because "that is one of its social and political responsibilities to the international community."

The document adds that "relations between our countries should always be governed by the principle of equality and reciprocity." For these reasons, the U.S. Government should act in its own country "with the same strictness it acts in the Andean countries."

Cuba

Coup, 'Causes for Instability' in Haiti Viewed

FL2006174688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] We have just heard in our newscast about another coup d'etat in Latin America. It has occurred in Haiti, one of the most impoverished nations on our continent. Haiti was the first country in the New World to achieve political freedom. A French colony until the 18th century, Port-au-Prince heard the sweet phrase—equality, fraternity, and liberty—sung in 1789 by the Jacobins in Paris. The blacks and mulattos, exploited by the owners of huge French estates, decided to adopt these noble ideals and put an end to colonial power. Revolutionary France wanted to effect changes on the continent but not in its colonies. The revolutionary France of 1789 sent General Leclerc to subjugate the Haitians who had committed the crime of dealing justice with their own hands.

The Haitian revolutionaries managed to retain their independence, but the country was destroyed. They obtained their political independence but were left economically dependent. First colonialism, and then imperialism, found formulas to perpetuate Haiti's dependence in connivance with the domestic political regimes the country has had for the past 2 centuries. It has suffered a ferociously repressive and brutally exploitative dictatorship for the past 40 years.

How can stability exist in a country in the midst of the most terrible poverty? How can it hope to develop if credits are cut off and its export levels are reduced?

The dictator Duvalier left Haiti 2 years ago in an American airplane. General Henri Namphy headed an almost entirely military junta to succeed Duvalier. The elections he organized early this year were fraudulent and, consequently, they were boycotted by the opposition. Haiti has not emerged from the Duvaliers' dictatorship nor has it found political consensus that will bring development.

The protagonists of today's coup in Haiti have different names, but the causes for instability remain.

Dominican Republic

Deposed Haitian President Manigat Arrives

PA2006205088 Paris AFP in Spanish 2019 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Santo Domingo, 20 Jun (AFP)—Deposed Haitian President Leslie Manigat is at the Concord Hotel in Santo Domingo, where he arrived at approximately 1500 (1930 GMT) [GMT time as received], Ramon Caminero, the hotel's public relations chief, confirmed to the press.

Manigat and his family made the 45-minute flight from Port-au-Prince aboard a Haitian military plane that landed at San Souci military airport in Santo Domingo shortly after 1300 (1700 GMT), the same source added.

The hotel is under strict surveillance by investigative and police department units in civilian garb, and the press is not allowed into the suite where the ousted president is staying.

Venezuela Grants Asylum

PA2006213688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2100 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Santo Domingo, 20 Jun (EFE)—Leslie Manigat, who was overthrown on Sunday as president of Haiti by General Henri Namphy, is in Santo Domingo today under the protection of the Dominican Government. [passage omitted]

It was learned that Manigat will be the guest of the Dominican Government until Tuesday afternoon when he will leave for Caracas, where Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi's government has granted him political asylum.

Deputy Foreign Minister Cited

PA2106025888 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0202 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 20 Jun (REUTER)—The Dominican Government tonight granted political asylum to Leslie Manigat, the ousted Haitian president.

The announcement by Dominican Deputy Foreign Minister Flavio Herrera Cabral occurred after his government assessed the Haitian coup.

Manigat was ousted early Monday by Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, Haitian Armed Forces commander in chief. Namphy addressed the nation and said he assumed control of the country to preserve Haiti for democracy. He immediately designated a cabinet exclusively comprised of military men.

Manigat arrived in Santo Domingo from Port-au-Prince aboard a Haitian Air Force plane. He shunned reporters on his arrival, but sent a message to the press through a Dominican senator who talked with Manigat for half an hour.

In his message, the ousted president said: "President Manigat is a man of principles. He hopes the international community will appreciate what he did while in the government. He also hopes the world will repudiate this base coup that has destroyed the Haitian people's hopes for a democratic regime."

His words were transmitted to reporters by Jose Abigail Cruz Infante, a leader of the ruling Social Christian Reformist Party of the Dominican Republic and a close friend of Namphy's.

Cruz Infante said Manigat was tired but in reasonably good shape. This contradicted the remarks made at San Isidro Garrison, 30 km from the Dominican capital, by Manigat's driver, who told REUTER that one of the ousted president's arms was bandaged and Manigat could not move it. [passage omitted]

Manigat Holds News Conference

FL2106161688 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Deposed Haitian President Leslie Manigat today urged his fellow countrymen to fight for the reestablishment of democracy in Haiti, the most impoverished country on the continent. Speaking at a press conference, he also called for the support of international democratic forces in the efforts to restore constitutional order in Haiti. In the last few hours, Manigat has received the support of the Christian Democratic organization of the Americas and of the Socialist International for Latin America and the Caribbean.

He said that Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, who put an end to his 4-month government, is presiding over a group of corrupt militarymen who are engaged in the contraband of vehicles [as heard]. He believes that it is a fragile military regime since, in his opinion, 90 percent of Haitian soldiers are against Namphy.

Manigat expressed appreciation for the hospitality of the Dominican people and government because he has been granted political asylum. However, it appears that he is getting ready to go elsewhere, possibly Venezuela.

Further on News Conference

FL2106163888 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1632 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Manigat appeals to the democrats of the world to face the military dictatorship in Haiti; he says that the church's lack of support contributed to his overthrow. Ousted Haitian President Leslie Manigat has asked for the assistance of all the democratic forces of his country and the world to face the military regime of Henri Namphy. Manigat, who still considers himself the legal president of Haiti, believes that his government was the last chance for democracy. He also complained of a lack of internal support.

Manigat made his statements at a press conference at the Dominican Concord Hotel. He added that the military leaders headed by Namphy overthrew him for opposing military smuggling and corruption.

Balaguer Asked To Intervene on Haitians' Behalf

FL1806153488 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1113 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] Santiago—The president of the Committee for Solidarity With the Haitian People has asked that President Balaguer intervene in order to minimize police-military actions against Haitians.

(Arce Perez) said that Haitians living in the Dominican Republic are facing a brutal persecution which can only be the result of the racist attitudes of state officials. He said that actions against Haitians have been renewed with more strength than ever due to the desperate situation experienced by authorities of the State Sugar Council. He said the situation is so tense that the president of the Republic [words indistinct].

(Perez) later said that there seems to be a strong need because they are attacking Haitians no matter what the cost and this is truly regrettable.

The president of the solidarity committee said that he himself has seen members of the military tie up Haitians and beat them to force them to cut cane. This is occurring near the [words indistinct] in Puerta Plata, he said, where they have severely beaten several Haitians.

Legislator Supports Balaguer, Urges Unity

FL1806164588 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1119 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] The president of the Chamber of Deputies, Luis Jose Gonzalez Sanchez, has expressed support for all the measures taken by President Joaquin Balaguer during the past few hours in order to confront the problems of the country.

Gonzalez Sanchez said that the Dominican people should not be discouraged because the nation has been confronting this situation for a long time and one cannot expect all problems to be solved at once. He said that the crisis the country is currently suffering is not exclusive to the Dominican Republic. The same problems are lashing out at other Latin American peoples and the world in general, he said.

The president of the Chamber of Deputies said President Balaguer has demonstrated a continuing [word indistinct] to resolve the economic and social crisis in the country. Nevertheless, he said, these solutions need time because of the current state of the economy.

Gonzalez Sanchez said that everyone throughout the nation needs to unite their forces to confront these problems, especially leaders of political parties. Political leaders should help find solutions to the serious problems of Dominican society, he said, because any break in the democratic system will be suffered equally by all.

The Reformist deputy also called on trade unions to use good sense in their conduct.

Agreement Freezes Rice Prices for 6 Months

FL1806174688 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1133 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The associations of rice producers from the private sector and (?agrarian reform) and the Dominican Association of Rice [word indistinct] have signed an agreement that freezes prices for several types of rice for 6 months.

Eng (German (Depradel), representing the millers, and Mr Miguel Moya, representing the producers, made the announcement, stating that this would guarantee many benefits to the producers as well as provide a reasonable price for consumers.

The agreement freezes the prices for premium-quality rice at 1.45 pesos a pound and good-quality rice at 1.25 pesos. Natural rice will be priced at 95 centavos a pound.

In making the announcement, Eng (Depradel) and Mr Moya said that rice could be marketed appropriately and producers, (?flour producers), and merchants should not have to raise prices to consumers. [passage omitted]

Grenada

Prime Minister Concerned About Coup in Haiti

FL2006233588 Bridgetown CANA in English 2103 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 20, CANA—Grenada on Monday voiced concern about an Army coup in Haiti Sunday that ended four months of civilian rule.

Prime Minister Herbert Blaize told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY: "Naturally, we are concerned ... "

Blaize said the overthrow of President Leslie Manigat's government had dashed Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders hope that there would be a turnaround in the economy of the poorest nation in the western hemisphere.

Haiti's powerful military commander-in-chief, Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, seized control of the country after a shootout at the presidential palace. President Manigat's attempt to dismiss Namphy last Friday triggered the coup.

Blaize said he expected the coup to be an "important subject" on the agenda of the July 4-8 Caricom heads of government conference in Antigua and Barbuda.

Blaize was doubtful about the possibility of an emergency meeting of Caribbean leaders on the situation in Haiti.

Haiti

Further on Situation in Wake of Military Coup

Namphy Addresses Nation

FL2006212688 Port-au-Prince Domestic Service in Creole 0526 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Message to the nation by Lieutenant General Henri Namphy from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] People of Haiti, here is your general, General Namphy. We won't talk about what happened. No. We are looking forward, not back.

You know how much you love your Haitian Army, the regular Army. And you know also that the Army, too, loves the Haitian people and the nation. You know how much Gen Namphy loves you and loves this country. But what just happened is what they did not want to see happen, what they did not like: that is for the Army and the people to be one.

When you see mosquitos flying, you cannot tell if they are male mosquitos or female mosquitos. Well, we ourselves—the Haitian Army—are one and in the service of Haiti and the Haitian people.

Friends, I was sick. I was not well; I was not in good shape. If it hadn't been for that, things would have been very different. When I learned that you were suffering along with me, you the Haitian people, you the Army [changes thought] I know how you were suffering along with me. You know how much it hurt me to see that I was serving my country and then to see what happened!

Well, I can't spend much time with you tonight. Our little chat will be short. But I already know that you can feel me, that you understand me. It is with this Haitian Army that you are destined to climb ever higher. Because we are looking at the sun, the sun [repeats himself].

Of Haiti, the sun Haitians [words indistinct] We god-damned-well swear that we will defend it to the death if we have to!

See all these men here? They are all ready to die. Will you die with the General? [Crowd responds: "Yes, we will die with him! We'll die with him!"]

No, that will never happen because you, the Haitian people, are at the side of the Army. It is no longer only the Army now. Now everybody is a part of the Army. And this time it is this Army that is going to lead the country the way it should be led, the way it ought to be led.

I would like to continue talking to you but I don't want to make too great an effort right now. We will need our strength for later. I had better conserve my strength.

Just one thing: To the people of the [words indistinct] belongs to you. Dessalines and Christophe knew what they were doing. Well, today it is they who led this action, which culminated in our standing here now talking to you.

Friends, I won't talk too long. Place your trust in the Army. Trust General Namphy. I, too, place my trust in you. Hand in hand, as I have always said, we will march forward, so that our dreams for Haiti will this time become a reality and they will become a reality within order and discipline!

Trust (?us). Trust the Army. I, too, place my trust in you.

Long live Haiti, forever united! [Crowd applauds and cheers; military band plays the presidential hymn, followed by the national anthem]

Explains Power Seizure

FL2006184088 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1348 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Message to the nation by Lieutenant General Henri Namphy from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince on 20 June--recorded]

[Text] On the anniversary of our independence, when I last talked to you as the head of the executive, I expressed my best wishes for the future of our people, and traced the background of their unity and their future of progress. I had hoped back then that I would no longer have to intervene on the political scene of a country launched along the path of democracy. Returning, thus, to their barracks, the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] back then retained neither a nostalgia for power nor a desire for supremacy because with their hierarchy, and faithful to their spirit of discipline, they (?intended) to obey and execute instructions in conformity with the Constitution and their own internal regulations.

But an attempt at destabilization, purposely initiated and instituted, almost pushed the country into a terrifying experience. The president of the Republic that you chose under the Constitution of 29 March 1987 betrayed your confidence by violating this same Constitution that he solemnly swore to faithfully observe and make others observe. Ignoring your legitimate aspirations to freedom and democracy, he set upon a path that was leading him irrevocably to the most brutal form of dictatorship. Solely toward this end, in violation of the Constitution and the law, he deliberately struck a blow at the Army and shook up its High Command, as well as all its cadres, in order to turn it into a docile instrument of his personal power. Through these acts, he imperiled the acquisitions of your glorious revolution of 7 February 1986. He paid no attention to your economic problems, nor did he seek in any way to create jobs. In short, acting only in the interest of his partisan politics, and in order to remain in power as long as possible, he did not hesitate to deform the normal give and take of the nation's institutions, to the point of rendering them inoperative.

In view of such a dangerous juncture, in which the very future of democracy and the freedom of Haitians was at stake, it was the FADH's duty to once again seize the reins of power with a view to the organization of the country and the protection of the nation's higher interests. In order to do this, a military government has been formed, with a president: Lt Gen Henri Namphy, FADH. [applause]

To all Haitians and foreigners living in Haiti, I give the most formal guarantee that all the conquests of 7 February 1986 will be respected and protected. To the friendly powers and the international institutions to which Haiti is linked through treaties, agreements, and accords, I reiterate the assurance that I will respect all of Haiti's commitments.

Long live Haiti, forever united. Thank you. [applause]

Airport Reportedly Closed

PA2006163988 Paris AFP in Spanish 1557 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Jun (AFP)—A reliable source has told AFP that Haitian authorities closed the Port-au-Prince International Airport today.

The airport will remain closed until further notice, the source said.

It was reported earlier that ousted Haitian President Leslie Manigat was apparently taken to the Port-au-Prince military airport, presumably to be expelled from the country.

Situation in Capital

FL2106140288 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 1716 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpts] [Announcer] [Passage omitted] Locally, there has been no disorder in the streets noted, either in the capital or in the provinces. Our correspondents, with whom we are now in permanent contact, have not reported any reaction to the military coup d'etat. [passage omitted]

There has been no reaction from opposition leaders either. They were visibly caught by surprise by last night's events. The few leaders we contacted by phone refused to make statements.

The international airport in Port-au-Prince has been closed by the authorities. This measure will remain in effect until further notice, said a well-informed source.

Returning to the situation in the capital, the streets are practically empty, deserted. No stores are open. The major public offices are not open. We are going to join a mobile unit, (Smoy Noisie), who went around the streets of the capital again today at noon.

[(Noisie)] The least we can say is that the capital is calm, but tension remains, following the events of the last 24 hours. [passage omitted] It looks like Port-au-Prince is still traumatized by yesterday's events and is expecting new occurrences. On the other hand, the streets are not totally deserted. Traffic is becoming heavier and heavier, although it is not like ordinary days, and public transportation vehicles downtown are also in evidence. There are few gas stations open, and people are having trouble filling their tanks today.

Around Mais Garte Airport, the physical environment, the decor, if you will, has not changed. There is the same smiling greenness in the vicinity of the industrial park. But one can see immediately that the situation is far from normal. There is no life, no activity. It looks as if the workers are not setting foot in the streets today. There is no activity at all inside the airport itself either. Besides, all flights have been canceled. The situation is the same a little further on, at the civilian air terminal, where all the flights to Haiti have been canceled. [as heard] [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, in Port-au-Prince people are circulating normally. One can already see (?young people) in certain neighborhoods. At certain places, the sidewalks are even full of people, perhaps because of the perceptible slowdown in public transportation.

Also, several Venezuelan soldiers were noticed in the streets this morning abroad their jeep. They are going about the construction work begun with the government... [corrects himself] with the Haitian Army. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Thank you, mobile unit. [passsage omitted]

Decree Dissolves Parliament

PA2006181488 Paris AFP in Spanish 1742 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 June (AFP)—A government decree published today in this capital announced that General Henri Namphy, who overthrew President Leslie Manigat Sunday night, has dissolved the Haitian Parliament, which consists of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate.

The decree states that in consideration of the nation's highest interests, the military government will adopt through decrees all the measures necessary to guarantee the administration's normal functioning.

Decree Names New Ministers

FL2206221688 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1744 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Freedom, equality, fraternity, Republic of Haiti, Port-au-Prince, 20 June 1988, 185th year of independence.

(?Decree of) the military government of Henri Namphy, lieutenant general, FADH, president.

In view of the proclamation of 20 June 1988; considering that under the current circumstances public peace and the stability of the nation must be consolidated;

Considering that a (?proper) measure must be taken to permit the military government to legislate;

At the recommendation of the minister of interior and national defense and the minister of justice and following deliberation in the Council of Ministers, (?it is decreed):

Article One: [Words indistinct] take all measures necessary to the proper functioning of the public administration by means of decrees.

Article Two: This decree abrogates all laws or dispositions [words indistinct] by the military government:

Minister of Interior and National Defense Williams Regala, major general, FADH;

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship Herard Abraham, brigadier general, FADH;

Minister of Information and Coordination (Acedius Saint-Louis), colonel, FADH;

Minister of Economy and Finance Andre Jean-Pierre, colonel, FADH;

Minister of Justice Fritz Antoine, brigadier general, FADH

Minister of Public Health and Population Jean Verly, lieutenant colonel, FADH;

Minister of Public Works, Transport, and Communications Alphonse Desulme, lieutenant colonel, engineer, FADH;

Minister of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development Damax Sidneus, lieutenant colonel, agronomist, FADH

Minister of National Education, Youth, and Sports Cecilio Dorce, brigadier general, FADH;

Minister of Social Affairs Phedre Desir, colonel, FADH;

Minister of Commerce and Industry Eric Brunel Lamour, colonel, FADH.

Further on Cabinet

PA2006202488 Paris AFP in Spanish 1932 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Jun (AFP)—General Henri Namphy, the new de facto Haitian president, today announced the formation of a government consisting exclusively of officers in active service.

Major General Williams Regala, the Army's number-two man, was confirmed in the key Defense Ministry post he held in the previous civilian government and in the civilian-military government (CNG) [National Government Council], which Namphy presided over until 7 February 1988.

Brigadier General Herard Abraham, who received his stars on this occasion, recovered the Foreign Ministry post he held in the CNG.

Three other new ministers also held ministries in the CNG. They are Brigadier General Fritz Antonie, former justice secretary and new justice minister; Colonel Phedre Desir, former interior and defense secretary and new social affairs minister; and Lieutenant Colonel Jean Verly, who takes over the Ministry of Health, a position he previously held in the CNG.

The composition of the new government, consisting of 11 ministers—all of whom are military officers—is as follows:

Interior and National Defense	Maj Gen Williams Regala
Foreign Affairs	Brig Gen Herard Abraham
Economy and Finances	Col Andre Jean-Pierre
Justice	Brig Gen Fritz Antoine
Public Health and Population	Lt Col Jean Verly
Public Works, Transport, and Communications	Lt Col Alphonse Desulme
Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development	Col Damax Sidneus
National Education, Youth, and Sports	Brig Gen Cecilio Dorce
Social Affairs	Col Phedre Desir
Commerce and Industry	Col Eric Brunel Lamour

[Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French at 1744 GMT on 20 June adds to this list the minister of information and coordination, (Acedius Saint-Louis), colonel, FADH]

Claude Grand Pierre, a civilian, was appointed general commissioner in the Commission for National Promotion and Public Administration.

Army Promotions, Changes

PA2106025088 Paris AFP in Spanish 0124 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Jun (AFP)—Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, president of Haiti's military government, today carried out several changes and promotions in the Army. Most of them annul or counter the measures adopted on Friday by President Leslie Manigat, which led to his ouster last night.

Brigadier General Carl Michel Nicolas, whom Manigat had retired, has been appointed commander in chief of the Army, and Brigadier General Wilthan Lherisson, also retired by Manigat, has been appointed assistant commander in chief.

Colonel Gregoire Figaro was confirmed as police commander, the post from which he had been removed by the ousted president. Figaro was also promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

The same promotion was granted to Colonel Prosper Avril, who played a decisive role in the coup d'etat's preparation. He was also appointed Armed Forces adjutant general.

Colonel Herard Abraham was promoted to the rank of brigadier general and appointed minister of foreign relations.

Furthermore, Brigadier General Morton Gousse was appointed Armed Forces inspector general.

President Namphy retired Brigadier General Charles Louis, chief of the Presidential Guard, and appointed Colonel Geraldus Monde to the post.

General Charles Louis' son, Commander Michel Louis, who is in charge of the Navy, was transferred to the general barracks and replaced by his assistant, Lieutenant Commander Bebert Valmond.

General Namphy also appointed Brigadier General Louis Thony Jr as assistant chief of staff, and confirmed Colonel Roland Chavannes as chief of traffic. Manigat had appointed Col Chavannes chief of police in Port-au-Prince.

The president appointed Major Leonce Qualo chief of the narcotics office and put him in charge of the antidrug operations.

Captain Isidore Pognon, removed by Manigat from the post of Fort Dimanche commander, has recovered his post. The commanders of the Saint Marc, Thomonde, and Cayes Jacmel military zones—who had been sent to other posts after their administration had been harshly criticized at the local level—have also recovered their posts.

MDN Head Makes Statement

FL2106153888 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Text] Among the reactions from political leaders, MDN [Mobilization for Development] leader Hubert de Ronceray has said that he supports the military intervention, but that he is waiting for them to relaunch the democratic process in Haiti. De Ronceray made this statement yesterday over Radio Metropole.

According to AFP, Mr De Ronceray blamed the Manigat government for not having done anything positive during its 4 months in power.

New Tax Administration Officials Installed

FL1806185788 Port-au-Prince Radio Antilles-Internationales in French 1153 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] According to Haiti-Info [not further identified], the new director general of the DGI [Direction Generale des Impots, the office of the director general of the General Tax Administration] has been installed. Alain Turnier, minister of finance, economic affairs, and civil service, yesterday installed (Wiener Dessources), who replaces (Raymond Foureau).

Also, (Francois Bouzy) was installed as technical director and administrative director and (Serge Salomon) was installed as assistant director general. (Bouzy) and (Salomon) were members of the DGI staff.

Radio Caraibes To Operate With New Transmitter

FL1406222288 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 14 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Today is a big day for Radio Caraibes: It is its 39th anniversary. On this occasion, one of our reporters interviewed Radio Caraibes Director Jacques Gary Simeon.

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Simeon] [Passage omitted] Radio Caraibes is a purely commercial station. That is to say, it is not subsidized by any institution. [passage omitted] It is a radio in the midst of repairs. [passage omitted]

[Reporter Marie-Josee] Thus, it is above all a commercial station. But what is the station's line?

[Simeon] [Passage omitted] It does not have a particular, identifiable line. [passage omitted] For example, the Haitian Communist Party buys air time from the station, as does the U.S. Government. Preachers buy air time from us, as do voodoo priests. I mean, it is not a radio station whose line one can pinpoint. Only we ourselves know what our line is. [passage omitted].

[Marie-Josee] So, people can't tell, but you know. Can you tell us what line you want the radio station to follow?

[Simeon] My radio station, my line, is commercial. [passage omitted]

[Marie-Josee] The radio station was hit hard before the uprooting, and even during the 2 years the CNG [National Government Council] was in power. Was the station's work affected?

[Simeon] Yes. Equipment was destroyed and we suffered rather serious damage. We tried to do the best we could. I even went abroad to buy new equipment, so that our current listeners could hear Radio Caraibes. Also, I promise all Radio Caraibes listeners, particularly the people in provincial towns who want to hear Caraibes, that perhaps by the end of July or the middle of August 1988, Radio Caraibes will be audible in Haiti's most remote provincial towns. We have been operating on a 1 kw transmitter. As you can see, we have just bought a 9 kw transmitter, with 9,000 watts of power. So we might very well be operating with 9 kw by the end of July or by mid-August. [end recording]

That was our reporter Marie-Josee interviewing Radio Caraibes Director Jacques Simeon on the Port-au-Prince station's 39th anniversary. The Radio Caraibes frequency is 1150. The commercial station has three newscasts a day. It also relays the Voice of America's Creole-language newscast, says Director Simeon. [passage omitted]

St Lucia

Opposition Leader Urges Caricom Summit on Haiti

FL2006194188 Bridgetown CANA in English 1925 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, June 20, CANA—St Lucia's opposition leader urged Prime Minister John Compton, current chairman of the Caribbean Community (Caricom), to convene an emergency summit of the groupings leaders on Haiti where the Army took power on Monday.

We cannot wait again upon external forces to dictate the pace of events in the region, said Julian Hunte, who issued the statement in the name of the Standing Conference of Popular Democratic Parties of the Eastern Caribbean (Scope) of which he is chairman. Now is the time to display the quality and level of leadership all our people expect and demand, he added. Hunte said that other heads of government outside Caricom should be invited to the emergency meeting. He said Scope feared for the life of deposed President Leslie Manigat. Scope warned the Caribbean and the world to beware of the motives and plans of the forces at play governing the events in Haiti last year, but one by one we saw members of the Caribbean Democratic Union align themselves to General Namphy and subsequently gave their approval to the fraudulent elections, Hunte noted.

The Caribbean Democrat Union is a grouping of pro-American mostly ruling political parties in the region.

Visit By Nicaragua's Tinoco Continues

Sepulveda on C.A. Talks

FL2106013888 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2100 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor has warned that the negotiating dynamics fostered in Central America must not be allowed to wind down. Otherwise, he said, we would be forced to pick up the pieces. Sepulveda Amor made the statement to Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, who today concluded an official 3-day visit to Mexico at the invitation of the government.

Moreover, Sepulveda Amor remarked on the importance of broadening the national reconciliation processes in favor of democracy in each one of the Central American countries. Were this not so, he said, civilian governments would be weakened or rendered incapable of carrying out effective negotiations, and conflicts would become more acute.

The two officials stressed in their talks that there was generalized concern in Latin America because most of the agreements signed by the Central American presidents at the Esquipulas meeting had not been implemented. In this connection, they noted that it was imperative for the governments of the region to take steps for the observance of these agreements as the only way for a future of security and economic-social development that will respond to the aspirations of all the nations in the area.

Sepulveda Amor expressed the Mexican Government's appreciation of the negotiating efforts carried out by the Nicaraguan Government in the Sapoa peace process. He also spoke of his government's conviction that this process must continue so that peace may be achieved in the brother country. He reiterated that the negotiations underway in Nicaragua are consistent with the commitments signed during Esquipulas II and which constitute a positive contribution to an effective resolution of the Central American conflict.

He also stated that his government was pleased that a meeting of Central American foreign ministers had been called for next week within the framework of an executive committee, inasmuch as this might lead to the effective establishment of the verification and follow-up commission and will make progress possible in other matters of importance to area security.

During his stay in Mexico, Vice Minister Tinoco also met with Humberto Hernandez Haddad, chairman of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, and with Alejandro Sobarzo Loaiza, secretary for international relations of the PRI's National Executive Committee.

Visit Ends

PA1906223488 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Jun 88

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco has ended his visit to our country.

During his visit he met with Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor. Among other topics, they discussed the course of the peace negotiations between the Sandinist government and the rebel resistance.

Tinoco said that the Mexican Government's support and the Contadora Group's efforts made possible the meetings between the parties involved in the conflict.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Sepulveda Amor stressed the need to continue with the dialogue and negotiations in order to achieve peace in Central America.

Communique Issued at End of Meeting With Belize

FL1706164388 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0408 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jun (NOTIMEX)—At the conclusion of the second Mexico-Belize interparliamentary meeting, the two delegations reaffirmed their desire to live in democracy, liberty, and with hopes of attaining higher levels of social justice.

A joint communique, read by Senator Rafael Cervantes Acuna, was issued at the end of the meeting. The note stresses the two countries' political willingness for mutual cooperation. In the communique, Mexico expresses its respect for Belize's independence and rejects any type of threat against its territory.

The parliamentarians also called for a peaceful, negotiated, just, and long-lasting solution to the conflicts in Central America. They also expressed support for regional dialogue to develop policies that favor coexistance based on understanding and mutual respect among regional states. The legislators feel that stability in Central America requires the absence of colonial or hegemonic interests, which present a threat to the principles of sovereignty and national integrity.

The parliamentarians also agreed on the possibility of calling a regional meeting to make suggestions on new environmental protection legislation.

They also stressed that the struggle against drug addiction should include joint actions to attack this problem from all sides, from its production to the laundering of money.

The communique also refers to the need for an agreement establishing preferential tariffs and a system of incentives for Belizean exports to Mexico.

In conclusion, the note stresses that a bilateral program on tourism should be developed, especially to promote the so-called Maya Route.

At the conclusion of the event, Mexican Senate leader Salvador Neme Castillo spoke in favor of continuing interparliamentary meetings with Belize within the framework of cooperation and respect, factors which allow the two countries to get closer together.

Government To Maintain Petroleum Export Rate
PA1906153488 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 16 Jun 88 p 1

[Report by Anibal Ramirez]

[Text] Yesterday the Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Secretariat reported that Mexico will not increase its petroleum exports during 1988, because it is not willing to make sacrifices or to give away its petroleum at low prices. Mexico currently exports 1.350 million barrels per day.

The secretariat reported that Mexico will not join any of the independent oil-producing nations' groups, nor will it go against OPEC agreements, because Mexico is not interested in influencing OPEC's decisions or agreements.

The government institution noted, however, that the country cannot absorb the cost of maintaining stability in the international petroleum market and that Mexico will continue its policy of defending its petroleum prices "because we are not interested in selling our hydrocarbons at low prices."

Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Secretariat officials observed that OPEC's decision to maintain its production quota at 15.06 million barrels through the second half of 1988 will probably lower prices during the third quarter of the year. Prices will increase when petroleum consumption in industralized nations increases during the latter part of the year, they added.

In defending its interests, Mexico proposed that OPEC reduce world petroleum production by 5 percent as the only way to stabilize the international market. Mexico's proposal also noted that if production is not reduced, reserves would be exhausted and crude oil would be sold for less than its worth.

Energy sector sources have reported that by the year 2000 the United States will be importing an average of 10 million barrels of petroleum per day. The United States now has 28 billion barrels in reserves, and, if it uses 16 million per day, those reserves will last 7 years. The United States purchases 51 percent of Mexican crude oil production.

Mexico has important petroleum reserve sites such as Chicontepec, which is estimated to yield 16 billion barrels.

Pemex Announces Extension of Debt Payments
PA1906212688 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 16 Jun 88 p 8

[Excerpt] Pemex has reported that it has managed to restructure its debt. Payments due between 1987 and 1997 have been extended until 1994-2004, and payments due in 1988 will be paid during the period 2005-2006.

Pemex officials said the state-run company will pay its debtors $869.5 million (2 trillion pesos) in 1988 and 1989 and will have more than 5 years to pay a $14.782-billion (34 trillion pesos) debt.

Pemex fixed assets total 67.21941 trillion pesos (approximately $29.564 billion); its inventory of supplies and accessories totals 3.313834 trillion pesos ($1.4407 billion); its accounts receivable 3.143834 trillion pesos ($1.366 billion); and its long-term investments in shares in subsidiary companies 7.581 billion pesos ($3.296 million). [passage omitted]

Official Notes Need To Expand Uranium Reserves
PA1706211588 Mexico City THE NEWS in English 14 Jun 88 p 6

[Excerpts] Mexico's uranium mining industry must be expanded if Mexico is to develop a major nuclear energy program that would require three more reactors in addition to Laguna Verde, Carlos Villanueva Moreno of the Department of Nuclear Energy said Monday.

The 10,600 tons of proven uranium reserves are the result of geological surveys covereing 15 percent of Mexico's surface, he said, referring to a study carried out by the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE). [passage omitted]

Villanueva Moreno said Mexico's supply of uranium is more than adequate to supply the Laguna Verde nuclear power plant throughout its expected lifetime. It is also estimated that there are an additional 150,000 tons of uranium embedded in phosphorous rocks in Baja California that could be mined if the country could increase its phosphorous acid production. [passage omitted]

"Within the context oif the world's energy potential, uranium will be taking a greater role in energy production into the 21st Century," Villanueva Moreno said.

El Salvador

Duarte To Return in July To Resume Duties

PA2006222888 Paris AFP in Spanish 2130 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Jun (AFP)—Alejandro Duarte, son of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte, announced in San Salvador that his father will return between 5 and 8 July to resume his duties. President Duarte is currently at a Washington hospital, where cancer was diagnosed.

"The president wants to return now. His spirit is strong and he has taken the news very realistically, because he knows he is facing a mortal illness," Alejandro Duarte said. Duarte's son returned over the weekend to San Salvador from Washington.

Duarte was hospitalized 20 days ago in Washington's Walter Reed Hospital. There it was diagnosed that he had stomach cancer that had spread to his liver. For that reason, the doctors said he only had a few more months to live.

Alejandro Duarte said the president is bent on returning despite his illness to take the helm of government. For 7 years the country has been waging a war that has claimed over 65,000 lives.

The president's son explained that the doctors had said Duarte can resume his government duties. However, he must organize his work differently in order to do that. In addition, he will have to travel to the United States every month to undergo chemotherapy treatments.

Alejandro Duarte also noted that his father will leave the hospital to live in an apartment located in the Walter Reed complex.

ARENA Denies Blandon Charge of Promoting Coup

PA2006190288 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1612 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 20 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Today Armando Calderon Sol, leader of the rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA], denied that his fellow party members are organizing a coup d'etat, as was charged by Army Chief of Staff General Adolfo Blandon.

"It is regrettable that one should hear such statements from a high-ranking military chief, since, under the present circumstances, ARENA is the group least interested in a coup," Calderon said.

The leader said that to stage a coup of that kind would be to "go against the people's will and to prolong the ongoing process of the war against terrorism." [passage omitted]

ARENA, a party founded in the early 1980's and linked to the most traditional sectors, maintains that charges that it is promoting a coup and stepping up violence are part of a propaganda campaign promoted by the ruling Christian Democratic Party.

Nicaragua

Ortega Criticizes IMF Economic Formulas

PA2006140888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] To IMF economic strategists the economic measures we are implementing here are totally crazy. But what would happen if we applied their formulas? What would happen if we fired 16,000 of our 34,000 teachers, as the IMF suggests, to guarantee the salaries of those who remained? President Daniel Ortega Saavedra made these comments last Saturday before teachers and health workers.

IMF formulas call for a reduction of public expenditures and a suspension of social programs, including social security pensions and subsidies, to reduce fiscal deficits and to guarantee payments on our foreign debt, Ortega said. He added: Unemployment and other consequences of these proposed actions do not keep IMF officials from losing any sleep. The president pointed out that a way in which to begin solving the Nicaraguan crisis would be to transfer large contingents from the productive sector to the countryside where export goods generating foreign currency are being produced. He added that the measures currently being implemented will not solve the crisis and that the solution will come when the war ends.

Our current objective is to keep the economy alive, President Ortega said. He added: We want it to survive. We need to correct our production methods to face those who are waging war against us inside the country.

Panama

Ritter Says No Plans To Break U.S. Relations

PA2006215488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2043 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Panama City, 20 Jun (EFE)—Today Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said his country will not break off relations with the United States despite "U.S. aggressions" because "we are historical partners" in the operation of the canal.

Ritter told EFE that part of the political and economic aggression "is to size up our patience and measure our responsibility."

The minister said Panama has demonstrated to the international community the country's desire to normalize bilateral relations with the United States because, he said, "we are not the ones who brought about the current state of these relations."

He added that Panama is considering every possible diplomatic measure against the United States, including a formal charge at The Hague International Court of Justice, but that no direct or indirect talks with Washington are being held at present.

Today Ritter opened the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America, which is being held in Panama City and will end on Wednesday. Sources close to participants in the meeting have reported that the assembly intends "to demonstrate Latin America's unity in support of Panama's struggle."

This organization is comprised of political parties, mass movements, trade unions, and committees from more than 20 Central American and Caribbean Spanish- and English-speaking countries.

Minister Ritter added: "The United States has taken its problem with Panama to every forum and keeps fabricating one fallacy after another as soon as it fails in each attempt to prove Panama guilty."

Ritter pointed out that in June 1987 the United States came up with the idea that the cause for its increased pressure was a lack of democracy in Panama, and it said economic aid for this country would remain suspended until a provisional junta was established and General Manuel Antonio Noriega was forced out as Defense Forces commander.

Ritter finally said: "The nature of the charges [against Gen Noriega] changed in February. Now Noriega was being accused of drug trafficking. The president who should have been removed (Eric Arturo Delvalle) became the constitutional president."

Further on U.S. Actions

PA2106010288 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Interview with Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter by unidentified reporters "today"; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] The North Americans have continued intensifying their campaign against Panama. On Friday, a U.S. datelined report claimed there is still a Cuban and Panamanian plan [not further identified]. This could be the spark for a U.S. military intervention in Panama. What is the Foreign Ministry's position?

[Ritter] The United States has taken the Panamanian problem to every forum, and as soon as one fallacy fails it invents a new one. First, last June it said the reason [for the U.S. actions] was a lack of democracy, and as long as there was not a provisional junta, that is, as long as President Delvalle and General Noriega were not dismissed, economic aid would remain suspended.

In February, the charges changed, and it turned out that the problem was drug trafficking, and the president who earlier was to be dismissed was all of a sudden viewed as the constitutional president of Panama. Then came the charges of human rights violations and now there is what the United States is beginning to call the Cubanization of the Panama problem.

This is no longer a drug trafficking problem, or democracy, or a human rights problem. Now the problem is that Cuba and Nicaragua have excessive influence in Panama.

We will have to wait and see what the next charge will be. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Why does Panama insist on having relations with the United States in spite of everything you have charged? What is the main reason for Panama not breaking relations with the United States? What is the basis of the relations between the two countries?

[Ritter] Relations between the two countries are based, first, on the fact that these are historical relations. Second, we have a common enterprise: the Panama Canal. We have to maintain the security, protection, and efficient administration of this joint enterprise we have in Panama.

I believe the U.S. aggression and tactics are due, in part, to the United States' decision to size up our patience and our sense of responsibility and to make us take steps we do not want to take. We have demonstrated to the international community that we want to normalize our relations with the United States, that it has not been us who has created the current state of relations with the United States. We have demonstrated that we are interested in complying with the administration and security aspects of the Panama Canal Treaty.

We are not going to take any step to give the United States any opportunity to use the might of its media and international news agencies to say it is Panama that has led relations between the two countries to their present state.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, is the Panamanian Government still thinking about continuing talks with representatives of the U.S. Government?

[Ritter] I repeat: Right now no talks are taking place with representatives of the U.S. Government.

Addresses at Anti-Imperialist Groups Meeting

Foreign Minister Ritter

PA2006191288 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1655 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Speech by Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter at the opening session of the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at Lagunilla Hall in the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Excerpts] Comrade Rafael Tavera, president of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations; Comrade Clemente Robin, secretary general of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations; comrade representatives of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America; comrades of the Panamanian political parties; Major Daniel Delgado [executive director for the Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate]; comrades in general:

I wish to add to the remarks made by Dr Eligio Solas, an anti-imperialist struggler from his school days up to his rise to the highest academic echelons of Panama as rector of the University of Panama, our higher institution of learning. I wish to say only a few words to welcome you on behalf of the Panamanian Government and people.

I wish to express my great pleasure at having been invited, as foreign minister, to participate in this meeting. Many years ago, before the revolutionary process that General Omar Torrijos began in Panama, a gathering of this nature in Panama would have been unthinkable, except perhaps on a clandestine basis. It never would have received the blessings of the Panamanian Government and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], which it enjoys today. The presence of this assembly in Panama perhaps best reflects what the revolutionary process has accomplished over the past 20 years. Panama has attained great achievements—for example, the Torrijos-Carter treaties—but it is now suffering from a brutal aggression at the hands of the U.S. empire.

The economic, military, political, and diplomatic aggression of which Panama is now a victim stems from the United States' very old wish to turn the Isthmus of Panama into part of its own territory. [passage omitted]

I also wish to point out our country's pleasure over the fact that this meeting is being held a few days after the celebration of the [anniversary of the] association of neighboring states' congress in Panama. That congress was the result of the liberator's [Simon Bolivar's] foresight. From a Caribbean island, Bolivar called for this congress to be held 11 years before it was actually convened. In a letter from Jamaica, the liberator dreamed of holding a congress one day in Panama. [passage omitted]

The destiny of other peoples is at stake in any Latin American country where there is a struggle like the one we are facing here in Panama.

In 1977, Panama provided an example when it showed that old conflicts can be solved through negotiations by signing a treaty with the United States that will lead to the turning over of the canal and all its installations by the last day of this century.

Today, Panama is also providing an example of what it should be and what it means to maintain an independent position. It is providing an example of what it means to be a small country that does not want to be submissive to U.S. orders. Panama is providing an example of what it means to have the friendship of the Latin American peoples and of all the peoples of the world. It is a friendship based on a profound respect for the sovereignty of countries, all countries, and deep respect for the principles of self-determination and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other states. [passage omitted]

On the very day the treaties were signed, a struggle began that we never thought ended in 1977. Because it was an anti-imperialist struggle of 74 years, we knew it was not over and that as Panamanians we would have to continue struggling, not only until the year 2000 but beyond. The struggle will have to go on until the year 2000 to ensure compliance with the treaties, and it will have to go on beyond that date to guarantee respect for those treaties. Today, the existence of those treaties is endangered.

Today we have received the solidarity of countries, of popular organizations, and of individual personalities from various countries. The entire world has expressed its solidarity with us. However, in ending this speech I want to say that of the many expressions of solidarity, this assembly fills Panamanians with a special emotion, because it expresses our own identity as a nation. We come from nations that are equally weak. We come from nations that are economically impotent, or rather virtually impotent in the face of an act of aggression such as the one that Panama confronts. We come from nations that are militarily insignificant in the face of the colossal power of the United States. However, you have come here with heads high and with open hearts to tell us that despite all these limitations, despite the pressures that are exerted daily on your governments and your people, you are here to demonstrate and to express your solidarity.

That is why this assembly of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America is more meaningful than any other. You can be sure that the Panamanian Government and people—and this is not just an expression for the sake of protocol—will be eternally grateful to you for being here today.

When problems are resolved, friends can always be found. When problems are present, particularly when there is an anti-imperialist struggle, only very good friends and those who fully identify with that struggle come forward in our defense and show us their total solidarity.

I only hope to live long enough to reciprocate to each one of you for this gesture of solidarity. Thank you very much. [applause]

Major Delgado

PA2006205388 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1728 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Speech by Major Daniel Delgado, representative of the Panama Defense Forces, at the opening session of the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at Lagunilla Hall in the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] On behalf of the Panama Defense Forces, we warmly and affectionately welcome you to this, your homeland, at a time when the front line in the struggle against imperialism is in our country. Your attendance at this meeting could not be more timely because the Republic of Panama, its government, its people, and the FDP are at this moment facing a most brutal aggression by the great North American power: the United States of America.

Many find it hard to understand the motives behind this aggression. Panama has historically been a friend of the U.S. people. However, they cannot understand or interpret the patriotic, nationalistic feeling of the Panamanian people, who are struggling to perfect their independence, who are struggling to become an independent nation, and have found themselves, since 1903, subject to U.S. intervention in our territory.

Panama has been site for the establishment of military bases that have not been established on our territory to defend the Panama Canal. Quite the contrary, those forces on our territory have been used to enslave the Panamanian people and disregard their struggle to recover their sovereignty and independence. Those forces and military bases have also been used to attack other fraternal peoples on the continent and the Caribbean. The aggression suffered by the Panamanian people on this occasion is mainly rooted in the U.S. interest in and objective of perpetuating its presence on our territory.

To do so, they want the Panamanian people to turn away from their historic struggle to attain the objectives we inherited from our patriots. They need the Panamanian people, their government, and their FDP to yield submissively and docilely to those objectives.

They do not want to recognize the patriotic spirit of the Panamanian people in their struggle to achieve independence. They do not want to recognize the fact that, in Panama, the FDP has a new idea, a new concept of the Latin American military man who struggles together with the people for their objectives. They do want to recognize the fact that the FDP is struggling with their people and their government to attain the historical legacy of our martyrs and patriots.

They do not want to understand that this new current among the Panamanian military is not subordinated to the interests of the large northern power but to the interests of the Panamanian people, to Panamanian objectives. The talk about democracy and human rights by the Reagan administration is intended to conceal its interest in perpetuating the [U.S.] presence in Panama. However, the Panamanian people, government, and Defense Forces are waging a determined battle for freedom, independence, and self-determination for all American peoples.

Today, Panama is simply a testing ground for a new form of imperialism and a new form of colonialism. Today, Panama is the test tube in which this new type of aggression against our peoples' freedom is being tested.

Panama is very pleased to receive you here to state that we are united in the great cause to attain liberation, self-determination, and development for all our nations. You will find here a permanent trench for the defense of the most cherished objectives of our peoples. We can achieve them together.

At this time, Latin America is threatened with this new form of aggression. If Panama loses this battle because of a lack of understanding by the rest of Latin America and the world, there will be no future for our peoples. Our continent's political and military leaders will be subjected to this new form of aggression, to this new mystique in which the United States is trying to implant a nonexistent situation in its people's minds, in the minds of the world's other peoples. Your presence here in Panama today is one more indication of the solidarity that the Panamanian people, government, and Defense Forces have already received.

It is not one man that they [the United States] want to destroy; it is not one people that they want to destroy. They want to destroy the cause of Latin America, the cause of world independence. That is what they aim to conquer in this struggle against Panama and its Defense Forces. They have not understood—as they have been unable to do historically—that a new generation of Panamanians, Central Americans, Caribbeans, and Latin Americans are firm in our oath of achieving development for our peoples, freedom—which we desire so much—independence, and freedom from subjugation to U.S. interests and objectives.

The FDP has made a deeply rooted promise and oath to remain firm in this struggle, to not surrender, and to be in the vanguard of our continent's struggle for freedom. Perhaps some day the United States will be able to understand this. Some prominent U.S. politicians already have.

I would like to share with you a few lines that have become especially relevant. One U.S. politician has said: We Americans would do well to rid ourselves of the stupid idea that the crisis with Panama is proof of our courage and our resolution. I find it impossible to understand how a conflict with a small, poor country, with practically no military power, could be considered a true test of our bravery and determination to defend our interests. Stubbornness, not courage, is needed to disregard the demands of the weak. Actually, what the Panama issue is testing is not our valor, but our good sense, view of reality, and common sense.

These words that we have shared with you were said by Senator William Fulbright in 1964, 23 [as heard] years ago. They are very relevant now, because the U.S. Government has still not understood that Latin America and the world are struggling at this time to achieve their full independence. In Panama's case, the government, the people, and the Defense Forces will wage that battle until the final victory. Thank you very much. [applause]

PRD's Salas

PA2006192088 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1606 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Speech by Eligio Salas, representative of the Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD), at the opening session of the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at Langunilla Hall in the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Text] Esteemed lady and gentleman comrades attending this third assembly of Central American and Caribbean Anti-Imperialist Organizations:

It is a significant honor that fills us with great pride to be able, once again, to be the host country for events, congresses, and meetings that have historically been an expression of unity in the struggle of our continent's oppressed people.

In 1826 here in Panama City, Simon Bolivar, the liberator, gathered together the Latin American peoples, who were fighting against Spanish colonialism in their search for a unity that was so cherished that it continues to be the goal and direction of our people's struggle. That struggle is even more important at this time, because each of our nations is determined to achieve its final liberation.

We believe that the fact that a meeting of this kind—which brings together organizations, parties, and representatives of Caribbean and Latin American peoples who are waging a struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, anti-imperialism—is being held in Panama at this time is tremendously significant, because it is taking place at a time when our country is being subjected to aggression, with which you are all familiar, from U.S. imperialism, which seeks, in our case, to set an example in order to prevent our countries and our peoples from continuing to advance along the paths of national liberation.

Perhaps the United States has planned to use the Panamanian experience as a model. We also believe that the Panamanian experience is a model and an example of resistance to and confrontation with imperialism, within the framework of the new conditions that exist on our continent.

Our weak, small country has been able to resist and to cope, and it is prepared to continue struggling to have its sovereign rights respected, to fully exercise its sovereignty, and to have the international agreements that the United States has signed with our country complied with; in other words, to ensure full respect for the letter and spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, so that in the year 2000 the canal will revert to its legitimate owners, the Panamanian people, and the last foreign soldier will leave our national territory. [applause]

It is within this framework that this meeting will be held. We must be thankful for the solidarity demonstrated by each of the organizations represented here toward the Panamanian people and government. We know, we are convinced that international solidarity is indispensable in order for weak, small countries like ours to be able to successfully confront imperialism and to continue their struggle against it.

The Panamanian experience, over the past few years, has shown us that to the extent that international solidarity is developed and intensified, we will be able to achieve the goals of liberation that our people have set for themselves. To a large extent, Panama's success in getting the United States to sign a new treaty in 1977, changing the relationship that existed to that point with regard to the operation, administration, and status of the Panama Canal, was due, above all, to a very skillful and intelligent policy developed by General Omar Torrijos, who was able to convince the countries of our America, their peoples, and even the peoples and countries of other continents that the Panamanian cause was just and must be supported by all fighters concerned with the destiny and final liberty of the world's peoples.

That lesson now allows us, in a situation of crisis, in a situation of confrontation with the United States, which has not hesitated to take the most brutal measures to destroy and to ruin our economy, and has not utilized even the most elementary diplomacy to disguise its direct intervention in our country's internal affairs... [changes thought] That solidarity, those lessons about

solidarity that were bequeathed to us by Omar Torrijos have allowed us to continue struggling and holding high the banners of our sovereignty.

This event taking place today is a part of that international solidarity put into practice with deeds, with events, with activities that must be translated into a strengthening of our struggle.

I wish to close by thanking you for your participation in this event with the hope, moreover, that based on the experience of this assembly—which is characterized, among other things, by a broad outlook and a great sense of unity—these organizations will also, as a result of the debates and discussions that will take place in the course of this assembly, gain benefits that will allow them to continue to hold high the banners of dignity, independence, and sovereignty of all our peoples.

Thank you very much. [applause]

Dominican CP's Tavera

PA2006233188 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1617 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Speech by Rafael Tavera, Dominican Communist Party leader and president of the Assembly of Anti-Imperialist Organizations, at the opening session of the third meeting of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America at Lagunilla Hall in the Atlapa Convention Center in Panama City—live]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency Panamanian Foreign Minster Dr Eduardo Ritter; comrades of the coordinating committee; comrade delegates; invited comrades and observers:

The anti-imperialist and anticolonialist organizations of the Caribbean and Central America are gathered here with America as our only fatherland, here where the blood spills from a very recent wound. We are here where the North's arrogance and infamy shines with shamelessness, here in Panama, occupied since its birth; here in Panama, without control of its territory, with its land mutilated by its canal, built with Panama's own land and water but belonging to someone else; here in a Panama full of military bases, like cancerous sores over its nation; here in a Panama under surveillance; here in a Panama permanently raped and forced, permamently forced, to be a servant, a servant of the capital established where trade and financial operations take place; Panama, a Yankee domestic without the right to speak, without the illusion that someday it can own its riches and property; Panama, as if it were a real Yankee slave, whose flag is barely recognized. Comrade Foreign Minister, this is the way the United States sees your fatherland, and this is the way they behave toward it.

One would have to be a perverse Panamanian and Latin American to withstand this situation without complaining, and even more perverse to resign oneself to this destiny. Comrade Foreign Minister, you represent another Panama: A Panama that resists and struggles to regain control of its own destiny. You represent Torrijos' Panama. The assembly of Caribbean and Central American anti-imperialist and anticolonialist organizations was created because of our peoples' urgent need to recognize and support each other. That is why we are here. [passage omitted]

In fact, Panama has been a U.S. military protectorate, and this must always be taken into consideration to understand the great role played by General Torrijos in this country. Despite the difficult situation that has been withstood by Panama, Gen Torrijos revitalized Panamanian nationalism and reasserted the continental awareness of nations' self-determination. The general's action brought the anticolonial struggle up to date and revived the old demand to stop U.S. imperialism's rapacity. [passage omitted]

Panama's struggle to recover the canal was waged on behalf of all colonies. The support that was later given to Argentina in its just demands to the aging English colonialism for the Malvinas Islands was mainly the result of the anticolonialist struggle started by the Panamanian people. Likewise, the most archaic forms of domination are part of the modern imperialist mechanisms to control our nations, like the old wharves that are still in use and that tie modern ocean liners with chains and anchors that have withstood the salt and the years.

Panama's struggle has also cast a light on the close connection between the training schools, espionage centers, and control centers and the situation that prevailed in Panama and other nations in the region. The struggle waged in Nicaragua and El Salvador became stronger because of the political situation in Panama—Torrijos' Panama. If the Panama Defense Forces—which have played a different role in this struggle—had behaved like the Honduran Armed Forces, for example, the political situation in Central America would have undoubtedly been less unfavorable for the United States' hegemony in the region.

Furthermore, the struggle to demand respect for Panama's rights has strengthened all efforts for unity, and a revitalizing wave of solidarity has washed over the continent and reached the very souls of most Latin Americans.

Comrade Foreign Minister, perhaps one of the most important contributions that will help modern revolutionaries and nationalist fighters is that U.S. imperialism's hegemony has noticeably deteriorated despite the increased aggressions against Central America—particularly against Panama. We can remember how easily the U.S. Government obtained the necessary votes at the OAS to expel Cuba and legalize the 1965 Dominican Republic invasion. Now, almost a century [as heard] later, President Reagan failed to get the necessary support at that regional organization to invade Nicaragua, despite all his threats and bribes. In fact, he could not find a single accomplice to publicly support his position in the conflict with Panama.

Moreover, President Reagan, in an attempt to personify the conflict, to cover up its real objective [significado], has centered his attack on FDP Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

An entire empire is ridiculously behind a single charge because they have not gone as far with the general as they have with heroic Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, whom they not only want to topple but also assassinate. However, the general must be careful.

This deterioration of U.S. hegemony can be more objectively evaluated when we carefully observe the inefficiency of the current U.S. Administration's interventionist steps: Gen Noriega is being legally persecuted in an attempt to blackmail him; the local economy has been blocked with the closure of banks, business strikes, and the withholding of taxes that U.S. companies must pay the Panamanian Government; and the troops stationed in Panama have been reinforced and mobilized to maintain a permanent threat of deploying them against the local government. All these steps, amid the dirtiest campaign in the international press, were the backdrop for an act of military sedition that was stopped without shedding a single drop of blood. Despite all these maneuvers, Gen Noriega and the Defense Forces are still there.

They are there upholding with dignity and decorum their people's right to genuine independence from the United States. Gen Noriega and the Defense Forces are there not only upholding their demand that the canal must be returned to the Panamanians, as mandated by the Torrijos-Carter treaties, but demanding that the Southern Command, center of all imperialist machinations in the area, immediately leave Panama.

U.S. power, which was formerly impotent [as heard], is now unable to remove a general and change, as it desires, the leadership of the Defense Forces of a virtually occupied [secuestrado] country—a country in which the United States exercises nearly absolute control of the economy; a country they have militarily occupied for decades.

In light of these facts, you can better understand why Caribbean and Central American anti-imperialist organizations are holding our third regular assembly in Panama. We are not doing this only because of the valuable contributions to our struggle, which we already mentioned; we are also doing it because of the lively ideas resulting from the Panamanian process.

Someone reminded me that when liberals talk about an opening, they always strengthen ties with the right wing. In the same vein, when conflicts between our peoples and imperialism deepen, the alleged prudent people do not fail to emerge to tell us that the best path to overcome the crisis is to comply with the demands of those who created it.

In Panama, we have seen the advantage of resisting imperialist meddling without overlooking the distribution of forces or rejecting any outcome [escenario]. [sentence as heard] However, it is clear that our peoples are more respected by aggressors when they resist than when they surrender.

The fate of this confrontation has been left open for us. It is also clear that to maintain the positions that have been achieved, we must keep in mind that imperialism, which is mutilating Panama's sovereignty and limiting its independence, is also economically oppressing the masses; it has prevented them from achieving political power.

In resisting intervention and imperialist presence, democracy and the demands of social and economic development for the benefit of the majorites are closely intermingled. As workers receive more guarantees allowing them to share power, and as their genuine interest to upgrade living conditions increases, they will defend their achievements more ardently, and the quality of the struggle for Panama's independence and sovereignty will also increase.

Among other reasons, President Reagan has made a fool of himself in the so-called Panama conflict mainly because he does not understand the true meaning of the peoples'struggle for independence. President Reagan does not realize that struggling for a country's independence is not the same as struggling for power or simply to defend a government.

At the beginning of this crisis, the Yankees treated Panamanians in the same manner as they treat those sold-out parties on the continent that alternate power, submitting themselves to U.S. capital. The Yankees have not yet realized the meaning of Panama's resistance. [passage omitted]

Reagan is unaware that there is an extraordinary force in the fighters who represent the fundamental demands of independence and liberty for their peoples. Those who join that struggle know they are risking their lives and never complain about the personal benefits or well-being they must leave behind or may lose. Moreover, like Marti, they may know that surely they will have to face the ingratutide of their fellow men; nevertheless, they jubilantly march forward.

President Reagan does not realize that Panama is waging a struggle for its independence. Some of the actors in this struggle may be manipulated, and secondary conflicts may temporarily appear; however, no one will be able to hide U.S. intentions of not complying with the Torrijos-Carter treaties, of not relinquishing the 75 military redoubts that the United States still has in Panama. Above all, the United States wants to continue using Panama as a general service platform for its economic policy. The United States does not want to leave this free zone, this financial and commercial zone, or this military base into which it has turned Panama.

Therefore, resisting U.S. policy is the first step for those who want Panama to be independent and to forge its own destiny. [passage omitted]

What is happening in Panama is also changing Panama. Panama will most probably never be what it was before this old problem heightened. No one can reject the possibility of another process; however, we can say that if the FDP and the people maintain their current position, Panama will be able to make significant progress in the struggle to achieve its own authentic independence. [passage omitted]

When I wrote this speech, I left it without a concluding paragraph, because there is always something happening in the Caribbean, and I did not know what would happen that would merit mentioning. We received the word yesterday: There had been a coup d'etat in Haiti.

Haiti, the oldest free and independent nation in Latin America, the poorest nation on the continent, and, as a result of U.S. intervention, the most oppressed country in the area, was once again shaken by a military action last night. To a certain extent, the Haitian soldier is a creation of U.S. occupation and of dictator Duvalier's heirs.

This conference repudiates the coup d'etat because we know General Henri Namphy and Leslie Manigat do not represent the interests of the Haitian people. This conference must call on all its members to strengthen their solidarity and support for the heroic people of Haiti, who also have a right to build a society in which human rights are respected, a society in which freedom is a reality, a society in which well-being is a reality for the majorities. [passage omitted]

I would like to read a short statement, a declaration issued by this assembly, repudiating the coup d'etat led by Gen Namphy and supporting the Haitian people.

The coup d'etat led by Gen Henri Namphy is proof of the tremendous crisis experienced by the Haitian people. Neither Namphy nor Manigat represent the interests of the Haitian people. The looting of Haiti's wealth, unemployment, economic backwardness, and generalized spiritual and material poverty—remnants of U.S. control over that country—cannot be overcome by seeking the support of what is left of the Duvalier era. For decades, the Duvalier's oppressed and stole the wealth of the Haitian people. Gen Namphy's return to power only represents the continuation of a repressive and criminal policy that violates the human rights of the Haitian people and surrenders the country's wealth to foreign capitals.

The anti-imperialist organizations of the Caribbean and Central American condemn this coup d'etat, which will further increase the crisis experienced by the Haitian people. It also calls on all member organizations to strengthen their solidarity and support for the struggle being waged by the Haitian people to eliminate what is left of the Duvalier era, to demand their sovereignty and right to build a society in which freedom and well-being will prevail.

[Signed] Assembly of the Anti-Imperialist Organizations of the Caribbean and Central America [applause]

Argentina

Vice President on Local Issues, Arms Sales

PY2006234288 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1705 GMT 20 Jun88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Jun (NA)—Today Vice President Victor Martinez said that "the possibility of changes at the administrative level should not be ruled out." Martinez said this when asked about the possible resignation of Domestic Trade Secretary Ricardo Mazzorin, regarding the polemic prompted by the import of 38 tons of chicken.

In this regard, Martinez said that "nobody is permanent in public administration" and that "we are here to serve everyone; therefore, the possibility of changes cannot be ruled out."

Regarding the recent visit to our country by Richard Solomon, U.S. Department of State policy planning staff director, and his concern over the sale of weapons to countries of the Persian Gulf, Martinez said: "Our government's policy is to resolve conflicts through dialogue."

Martinez added that "we advocate peace and disarmament at all international forums, and we had already expressed this concern when we signed a treaty with the sister Republic of Chile."

He went on to say that "we express the need to increase efforts in favor of world peace and disarmament every time we meet with those responsible for international politics."

Martinez denied that "Argentina has sold weapons to Iran" and explained that "the possible sale of any item in particular does not necessarily identify any country with a specific belligerant policy."

In this regard he said that "we must simply reorganize our Armed Forces and repair our equipment, and we will then be able to sell weapons to any country as other states do."

When it was mentioned that Iran is a country at war, Martinez said: "There are many countries in conflict; that is why they buy weapons."

Asked whether the national government had any information about the participation of Argentine officers in the cadres of the Nicaraguan "contras" during the de facto government as claimed by anti-Sandinista commander Enrique Bermudez in Washington, Martinez replied: "These are historical events that happened before our government." Martinez added: "However, we are not exempt from some exchange of advisers or participation in conflict-ridden zones."

When asked whether the Radical Party is worried about the possibility of simultaneous internal elections within the Justicialist Party, he said, "it is a coincidence that by no means affects us."

"The Radical Party is carrying out its internal campaign and other political parties will do the same, but this is part of the plural mechanisms of democracy."

Martinez made these statement at the conclusion of a ceremony he presided over at the foot of the General Martin de Guemes monument on the corner of Figueroa Alcorta and La Pampa Avenues of this city, where he delivered to the national gendarmerie a war flag donated by the senate.

Briefs

New Peronist Party Founded

San Juan, 17 Jun (NA)—A group of local Peronist leaders have announced the creation of a new political party loyal to Isabel Peron. The new party is called "October 8" and will emphasize the role that "the Armed Forces, the family, and the Catholic Church must play in Argentine society." Carlos Cabrera and Hugo Carrizo are the new leaders of the party which, within the Justicialist Party structure, follows the guidelines established by union leader Ubaldo Montano, who was expelled from the Justicialist Party in view of his electoral alliance with the San Juan bloc party. [Summary] [*PY2006234488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1457 GMT 17 Jun 88*]

Bolivia

Planters Reject Government Eradication Plan

PY2006181888 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1645 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Coca planters have rejected the government's proposal and declared themselves in a state of mobilization. Today the executive secretary [name indistinct] of the Settlers Confederation, who attended the Coca Planters Assembly in Cochabamba, revealed that the four points proposed by the government were rejected.

The 4-point proposal, which the government handed to the Bolivian Workers Confederation last week, refers to setting a coca production quota, the need to request permission for coca planting or keeping seedlings stock, and to dictating a law on the usage of green leaves.

[Begin executive secretary recording] We attended a joint assembly of the Settlers Confederation and COB last week to prepare a report on all the steps that have been taken recently. In the first place, the proposal made by the Campesino Affairs Ministry was rejected on the grounds that it was conflictive in nature. [end recording]

Later, the Settlers Confederation executive secretary said that the coca planters decided to leave the next decisions to be discussed with Congress in the hands of the COB.

[Begin executive secretary recording] Our colleagues decided to postpone consultations, but they authorized the COB to conduct negotiations until a final solution is found both with the executive and legislative branches. [end recording]

Brazil

Sarney Announces Request for New Japanese Aid

PY2106031788 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 20 Jun 88 p 12

[Text] Londrina—Yesterday President Jose Sarney announced that Brazil is going to submit to Japan a new list of possible projects for the Nakasone plan. This list, as in the case of the first one, will be jointly discussed by the Brazilian Government and Japanese financial authorities to establish priorities, but it depends mainly on the normalization of Brazil's situation with the international financial market.

Sarney has said that Japan will only start disbursing the resources earmarked for Brazil in the first phase of the Nakasone plan once negotiations with the Paris Club conclude. According to Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre, negotiations with the Paris Club will start next week. Abreu Sodre, who accompanied President Sarney to a ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the Japanese immigration to Brazil, made this statement in Rolandi, Parana State, He explained:

One of the Japanese Government's conditions is that the countries to benefit from this plan maintain a good relationship with the international financial community.

President Sarney, who spoke at Londrina airport, denied that Japan had demanded that Brazil not decree another moratorium in order to release the funds of the Nakasone plan. Sarney added: We decreed the moratorium because we did not have more reserves. Our reserves were very low and Brazil was not in a position, at that moment, to honor the foreign debt service. Now we have more reserves and are in a condition to negotiate with the international financial world with sufficient authority while defending Brazilian interests.

Sarney referred to the dismissal of Brigadier General Paulo Roberto Camarinho, Armed Forces chief of staff, as "a routine administrative episode that has already been overcome." He does not believe the Armed Forces will react against his government and asserted that, quite the contrary, "the military has decisively contributed to the democratic transition."

Sodre on U.S. Retaliation, Sarney Trip to PRC

PY2006164788 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre has reported to President Jose Sarney in Londrina [Parana State] that the U.S. Government has decided to suspend threats of retaliatory measures against Brazil for its Information Science Law, which calls for market reservation. [passage omitted]

[Begin Sodre recording] There will be no more retaliatory measures for the time being. This decision does not mean that retaliatory measures will be suspended forever. The measures were postponed indefinitely. There will always be retaliation when a country is beginning to develop. Whenever a country develops, it starts to compete with other countries and to dispute markets with them. [passage omitted] [end recording].

Regarding the foreign debt, Minister Abreu Sodre said the negotiations will end with positive results in about 2 weeks. The debt rollover will be granted and new money will enter the country.

Minister Abreu Sodre also confirmed in Londrina that President Sarney will leave for the PRC on 1 July. According to the minister, the trip will help consolidate trade between the two countries and intensify technological exchange and cooperation.

Minister Abreu Sodre said that during the visit President Sarney will sign an agreement for the reconstruction of scientific satellites with the PRC.

[Begin Sodre recording] [passage omitted] The two Brazilian-PRC-made satellites, which have not been matched technologically so far, will be used to detect the resources of the two continent-sized countries. [end recording]

President Sarney will also visit an iron-ore mill in Shanghai.

Labor Court Rules URP Decree Unconstitutional

PY2106004488 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] By a 10-3 vote, the Superior Labor Court ruled unconstitutional the decree that suspended URP [Reference Price Unit] payments to federal public servants and to state-run company employees. The decision will benefit only Petrobras employees, who appealed the decree before the court. The court unanimously ruled that Petrobras must comply with the collective bargaining clause that establishes a monthly readjustment of salaries.

Finance Minister To Visit, Canada, U.S., Japan

PY2006162388 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Tomorrow Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega will leave for Canada. During the trip he will meet with Canadian Finance Minister Michael Wilson and bankers and businessmen in both Toronto and Ottawa.

Minister Nobrega will return to Brazil on 25 June and leave for Japan the following week.

During stopovers in Los Angeles and San Francisco, he will deliver a lecture to businessmen and meet with West Coast bankers.

PLO Leader To Visit Country 23-29 June

PY1806031188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0006 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] Brasilia, 17 Jun (EFE)—Faruq Qaddumi, the PLO chief of international relations, will arrive in Brasilia on 23 June and meet with President Jose Sarney, it was officially reported today.

Qaddumi, who will stay in Brazil until 29 June, will also meet with Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre. On 25 June, Qaddumi will meet with PLO representatives in Latin America.

Qaddumi's visit to Brazil has been postponed several times. The last postponement occurred in February, owing to the escalation of violence in the Israeli-occupied territories. During this visit, the Brazilian officials will confirm to Qaddumi that Brazil recognizes the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

EFE learned from Brazilian diplomatic sources that Sarney will tell Qaddumi that Brazil does not intend to grant diplomatic status to the PLO office in Brasilia.

Qaddumi will be told, however, that the PLO office will continue to have everything it needs to discharge its duties.

Sarney will also tell Qaddumi about the Brazilian position on the quest for peace in the Middle East, that is, its support for an international peace conference at the United Nations with the attendance of PLO representatives.

Qaddumi will visit Sao Paulo on 27 June to meet Governor Orestes Quercia, Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns, and members of the local Palestinian community.

Recent Poll Shows Majority Support for Sarney

PY2106004188 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpt] According to a poll that has just been reported, more than 50 of the C and D [not further identified] population approve of President Jose Sarney's actions. This information has been provided by Senate PFL leader Marcondes Gadelhia, who met with Sarney. He said that Sarney was satisfied with the news, although the president was not euphoric because he believes there is still much work to be done. [passage omitted]

Police Uncover Lebanese Cocaine 'Connection'

PY2106013988 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2255 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Brazilian Federal Police have announced that a new international cocaine ring operating in Brazil has been uncovered. Investigations have established that the cocaine goes from Bolivia to Beirut, Lebanon, through the States of Mato Grosso do Sul, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo. The Lebanese connection has involved federal agents from all three of these states and is considered to be one of the largest drug rings operating in Brazil. In Campo Grande, capital of Mato Grosso do Sul State, four drug traffickers from this ring have been arrested.

(Joseph Sham'un Georges) and (Shamir Sham'un Georges) were cocaine distributors in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro from where the drug was shipped to Lebanon. They used a clothing store in downtown Campo Grande as their base for drug trafficking operations. Police found 60 kg of pure cocaine on the premises, which is owned by the two brothers. Federal police agents also arrested (Nabib Joseph) and (Elio Vieira de Almeida). At the apartment occupied by the latter two men in the outskirts of Campo Grande, police seized 10 kg of cocaine.

The three Lebanese citizens arrested by the police were also involved in financial operations at the Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo parallel money markets. Each week, $100,000 was sent out of Campo Grande for black market operations.

Roberto Alves, Campo Grande federal police superintendent, has reported that the investigation that led to the arrest of the Lebanese citizens lasted 3 months. The first clue appeared when a contact of the traffickers was arrested in Sao Paulo.

The next job of the federal police is to identify who is financing the drug buys in Bolivia.

Briefs

World Bank Approves Loan

The World Bank has approved a $300-million loan to Brazil to finance agroindustrial projects. Another $300 million will be provided by the private sector. The loan has a 15-year term and a 5-year grace period. [Text] [*PY1806114388 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 17 Jun 88*]

Chile

Justice Minister Links No Vote to Marxism

PY2106025388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Justice Minister Hugo Rosende has said that the Communists' decision to support the no vote links all democratic opposition parties to Marxism.

[Begin Rosende recording] This understanding is the inevitable result of political dynamics and it definitely gives the no option a clear Marxist characteristic, no matter how great an effort is made to prove the contrary. The mere fact that the Communist Party supports the no option automatically makes the so-called democratic force a supporter of this group, like it or not. If this understanding was not reached before, it will be reached during the campaign as a consequence of political dynamics. [end recording]

At noon today Minister Rosende visited the first fair of legal books where lawyers and candidates of the Metropolitan Legal Assistance Corporation are exhibiting the latest national and foreign books on law.

Regarding the institutional process, the minister of state added that Article No 8 and other laws are fully in force to safeguard the citizenry's peace and the consolidation of important government projects such as, in the economic sector, the reduction of the value added tax, and in the judicial sector short-term projects such as the amendment of the penal code and the drawing up of a law on the rights of married women.

Sergio Buschmann Dossier Delivered to Interpol

PY1806133588 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] A dossier with the complete criminal record, personal data, and physical description of terrorist Sergio Buschmann [of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] has been delivered to Interpol, police sources have announced.

The sources added that the dossier also includes a warning to police worldwide that Buschmann is considered to be violent and that he is usually armed. In addition to the extremist's photograph, his fingerprints have also been included.

The sources also said that Buschmann is to be extradited from any country. If he is found, he must be arrested and his arrest must be immediately reported to the Interpol office in Santiago, as well as to the (?OPE-ICE) InterpoL General Secretariat.

The dossier explains that Buschmann, who is a fugitive from the Chilean courts, escaped from the Valparaiso penitentiary on the evening of 12 August 1987 with three other terrorists, all of whom have been classified red alert [difusion roja]. This expression is used internationally to emphasize the importance and danger of criminals wanted by the police of Interpol member countries.

Maritime Police Find Weapons Aboard Fishing Boat

PY2006141788 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Relay from Concepcion by Jose Miguel Concha]

[Text] Following the finding of weapons aboard a fishing boat by maritime police agents at Chacabuco port, in the jurisdiction of the Talcahuano Naval Command, sources of the 2d Naval Zone have released the following official communique:

The commanding officer of the 2d Naval Zone has reported that during a routine inspection by personnel of the harbor master's office in Chacabuco, fulfilling their maritime police duties, a large quantity of weapons were discovered aboard the fishing boat "Dona Antonia." The origin of these weapons is under investigation.

The communique adds that the fishing boat belongs to the Santa Magdalena Fishing Company, Inc., and that it has been working for the Friosur Co.

All four crew members and the owner of the boat are under arrest. The owner has claimed responsibility for the weapons, some of which have ownership permits.

Since Chacabuco falls under the jurisdiction of the 2d Naval Zone, whose commander in chief and naval judge is Rear Admiral Eduardo Valle y Fuentes, the naval prosecutor's office headquartered in Talcahuano will investigate this case. The prosecutor is now at the site carrying out preliminary investigations. It is appropriate to mention that by law, the maritime police duties fall exclusively under the jurisdiction of the Chilean Navy. It is not true, therefore, to say that Carabineros boats have participated in the investigations.

The commander in chief of the 2d Naval Zone reports that he will not release further details for the time being so as to not hamper the current investigations.

Colombia

M-19 Demands Participation in National Dialogue

PA2006195488 Paris AFP in Spanish 1731 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Bogota, 20 Jun (AFP)—The leftist rebel organization M-19 reported that former Colombian Senator Alvaro Gomez "is in excellent physical and psychological health and is behaving admirably." The M-19 also demanded participation in the national dialogue to look for solutions to the country's social problems. [passage omitted]

A man who said he was M-19 Commander Felipe talked with three newsmen in Cali, 500 km southeast of Bogota, on Sunday night. He said that the rebel organization will issue a political statement to explain the reasons for Gomez' kidnapping within the next few hours. [passage omitted]

According to newsmen present at the meeting, Felipe said that the sooner the national dialogue to find solutions to the country's problems begins, the sooner former presidential candidate Alvaro Gomez will be released. [passage omitted]

President Appoints New Justice Minister

PA2006185488 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1820 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Bogota, 20 Jun (DPA)—It was learned in Bogota that Federico Estrada Velez, the Colombian ambassador to Italy, has been appointed the new minister of justice by President Virgilio Barco Vargas.

Estrada Velez, an Antioquia Department senator and a prominent lawyer, will replace Enrique Low Murtra, who will be assigned to a diplomatic post. [passage omitted]

Peru

Garcia Discusses Contraband With Officials

PY2006232888 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1809 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] This morning Peruvian President Alan Garcia ordered drastic measures to stop the contraband of foodstuffs through our northern and southern borders.

Garcia has been meeting with the defense minister, the interior minister, the agriculture minister, the customs house director, police chiefs, and the heads of state-owned enterprises involved with the foodstuff sector since 1000 today. The head of state gave them a 1-month deadline to resolve the foodstuffs contraband problem.

[Begin Garcia recording, in progress] ...1 kg of rice, which has a given cost here, costs four times as much beyond our border with Ecuador. I do not know how the cost compares with the Bolivian market, much less with the Chilean market. However, it is obvious that at this moment the subsidies, in the first place, and the implementation of foreign exchange rates, interest rates, and tax exemptions, in the second place, have determined an increasing [words indistinct].

Nevertheless, we must take measures to guarantee that the entire national effort involving foreign exchange rates, tax exemptions, and the marketing through (?ENSI) and (?CAJAS), that the entire national effort being made to guarantee the supply of certain products such as sugar, milk, and rice will not end up benefiting foreign economies.

In addition, as I have said before, we will not manipulate the market by raising prices in Peru in order to make them equivalent to prices abroad.

There is an important way to avoid this: to prevent, control, and stop these products from leaving the country.

I think we have to reach agreements on how to stop contraband. In fact, tens of millions of dollars are going through our borders, and I believe that those sitting at this table are responsible for it.

I do not know what you will do, but you must do something. I am giving you a 1-month deadline to report on your results on contraband in the north and in the south.

This is why I have convened this meeting. In view of the scandal, public reports, and the evidence available that the country is supplying medicine and foodstuffs to neighboring countries, there is no other way out than to ultimately and dramatically put to the test those who are responsible for this.

What methods are to be used? There are restrictive methods, police methods, and appeals to the citizenry and to the mayors by gracefully and patriotically countributing or by drawing economic benefits. I do not know. Sometimes, a monetary incentive or reward for reporting contraband is much more effective than all the moral standards and lifetime experiences. If such a method is required, you must propose it.

Another possibility is that the mayors of border provinces or districts who are reporting contraband retain for their city, district, or province what has been seized.

However, how can the people be integrated into this effort? By using monetary incentives? By encouraging the mayors and government officials that whatever they seize or discover will be for the benefit of their department? [end recording]

Finance Minister Speaks on New Measures

PY2006154488 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0109 GMT 19 Jun 88

[Speech by Finance Minister Cesar Robles Freyre; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Peru is currently undergoing a severe moral crisis which undermines the nation's economy day by day. Widespread disorder and imbalances are present at all social levels throughout the country. These social traits are clearly reflected in the nation's economy. Thus we can see that disorder and imbalances are also present in the banking and financial system, foreign trade, and tax management. Let us make an honest evaluation of each one of these pillars of the nation's economy.

First, we will deal with the banking and financial system.

These are the main causes of the crisis of the banking and financial system:

1. The fact that, up until a very short time ago, interest rates were too low compared with inflation.

2. The advent of the so-called parallel banking system.

As we all know, the savings of the people and the enterprises are the main source of funds for productive investments. The average person is compelled to put his savings in a bank for the profits that these savings will reap, while businessmen are interested in the credits that they may obtain for investments.

Thus the interest rate becomes a deciding factor under which a citizen or a company may deposit money in the bank. In our country, interest rates have fallen below the rate of inflation, thus severely harming depositors, reducing the availability of money to the national productive apparatus, and generating widespread financial disorder.

Depositors in general have been compelled to withdraw their money from the bank to buy dollars. The falling confidence in the local currency has depleted saving accounts in the banks and created parallel financial markets. The parallel banking system is a good example of this. This system operates outside the law, paying and charging interest rates that are above those established by the Central Bank, thus engaging in dishonest competition with the legal banks and fuelling inflation.

It is estimated that the parallel banking system and other middleman operations are currently handling 40 percent of all available financial resources. This seriously harms the banking system and the state because the illegal operations pay no taxes whatsoever.

This disorder is also seen in the legal banking system. We have been able to attest that even though interest rates for loans were set at 55 percent per annum, for a number of reasons the effective rates being charged by banks fluctuated around 110 percent per annum.

To put the country's financial and banking system in order, a few days ago the government ordered the Central Reserve Bank to increase the interest rates on deposits to 103 percent annually, which represents an overall increase of 142 percent, while interest rates on loans will increase to 120 percent annually, representing a 118-percent increase. The goverment expects to balance the situation with these measures.

Savers will thus receive more just compensation for their savings and this will increase overall savings and help bank liquidity. This in turn will have a positive effect on production and economic reactivation.

Another effect of the increase in interest rates is the Central Bank's recovery of the capacity to control and handle bank liquidity.

These adjustments do not mean we are acting against the people, because they will not have an inflationary effect. This is because in practice banks are already using these interest rates.

This will also encourage many important enterprises to do business with the legal and traditional banking system and to drop the parallel system. [passage omitted]

Next we will discuss the banking system and foreign trade.

The fact that Peru has not strengthened its foreign trade is an unquestionable reality. This fact has caused imbalances, has adversely affected our domestic productive apparatus, and has reduced our international reserves. It is also true that these reserves have been reduced by the accelerated growth over the past 2 years.

An important factor of our foreign trade imbalance is the exchange system prevailing in the country. This system has been initially designed to solve specific situations. Right now we must correct the distortions caused by the large variety of exchange systems, which seriously affect our trade transactions abroad and the price structure in our domestic market. The large variety and number of exchange systems are being corrected through a simplification of the system.

As an initial measure, the government has decided to reduce the number of exchange systems for imports to only three.

This exchange simplification will have no inflationary effect and its effect on staple prices will be insignificant, because it will be compensated by the necessary financial support.

We must not forget that the subsidized multiple exchange rate of the dollar allows for the purchase of very cheap dollars, which causes corruption and undesirable practices in the use of these dollars. Therefore, part of the subsidized exchange system must be reduced considerably. However, it is appropriate to add here that in defense of the Peruvian people's health and nutrition, prices of foodstuff and basic pharmaceutical products will not be increased.

Regarding trade, the government intends to stimulate on a priority basis all exports. To achieve this it will adopt measures to encourage exports of traditional and nontraditional goods. As a first step, the government has just approved the increase of the dollar exchange rate for exports at 92 intis, and for some textile exports, the exchange rate will be 117 intis. These changes will surely yield benefits for the export sector.

The government has confidence that Peruvian businessman will comply with this historic challenge of developing our foreign trade, increasing exportable products, generating more employment opportunities, and increasing international reserves for the country. [passage omitted]

The recently created National Customs Superintendency will ensure an adequate implementation of the economic and tax policy. We will fight contraband and tax evasion through a more uniform tax policy, that is, more uniform customs tariffs. As for the new Superintendency and Tax Administration, known as the General Tax Directorate, they will be authorized to broaden the country's tax liability base by including new taxpayers, taking into account that tax evasion is widespread. As 80 percent of all tax revenues are exacted from just a few enterprises, one can realize that the large majority pays no taxes at all. The tax code will be reformed so as to make it an effective tool for the redistribution of wealth.

Another obvious problem that must be resolved is the large number of tax exemptions being granted in the country. An important portion of the fiscal deficit could be reduced by erasing a good many exemptions from the books. The current exemptions policy must be corrected by the administration and to that end Law No 24,823 was recently dictated.

The joint effort that the country is now called upon to make in order to reduce the considerable revenues-expenditures gap will be compensated with the general benefit resulting from a better allocation of the greater revenues. I must empasize at this time that all the measures being adopted will be directed at improving the well-being of the country's large majority. We will do so by fighting poverty, protecting the people's nutritional needs, and increasing employment. The poor in the country can be sure that the APRA government will not neglect them in its economic recovery program. [passage omitted]

In closing, I reiterate that my appearance on television is fundamentally intended to explain to the Peruvian people the reasons underlying the measures of economic reorganization that have recently been implemented. I also want to take this opportunity to announce the new course the executive branch will henceforth take on economic matters. I publicly declare that before new measures are dictated, I will meet with the various sectors that represent the entreprenurial and labor activities in the country.

With the workers, I will discuss the main guidelines of the salary policy and the productivity that national industry requires.

I want to address my last words to the Peruvian people, of which I am a part and a servant, not just as a minister but as a man committed since my youth to the search for justice and freedom. I tell the Peruvian people that we will respond with deeds to the confidence and hope of all men and women who voted for a change toward peace and freedom. I am nothing but a humble worker who is determined to earnestly and honestly serve his fatherland. [passage omitted]

Shining Path Commemorates 'Heroism Day'

Work Stoppage in Ayacucho

PY2006155088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2005 GMT 19 Jun 88

[Text] Ayacucho, 19 Jun (EFE)—The city of Ayacucho remains paralyzed today for the 3d consecutive day. Today has been designated by the Maoist Shining Path group as "Heroism Day" to commemorate the deaths of 250 people who were imprisoned for terrorism in Lima and 2 who were being held in Callao.

The prison uprising began on 18 June 1986 and was put down by military and police personnel that same night and during the early morning hours of 19 June.

The stoppage called by the Shining Path has halted public transportation and commercial activity, including food markets.

Police sources reported that on 17 June Shining Path members killed a taxi driver, whom they caught on duty.

The Shining Path distributed leaflets on 16 June announcing the stoppage and saying that it would also be a demonstration of "protest" against the arrest of Osman Morote, whom police say is the "number two" man in the terrorist organization.

In the Ayacucho neighborhoods of Andamarca, San Juan Bautista, and Carmen Alto, leaflets were found in which the Shining Path members state that "they will avenge the arrest of Osman and the humiliations to which he is being subjected."

It was also reported that six explosions were heard last night on the outskirts of Ayacucho. Gunfire was also heard.

The police reported that Police Hospital here was bombed, but there was only minor damage.

In 8 years of subversive and countersubversive violence in Peru, more than 11,000 people have died. Seven hundred of the deaths occurred in 1988.

Bomb Explosions in Lima

PY2006145888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0325 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Lima, 19 Jun (EFE)—Three bomb attacks occurred tonight in Lima. A young boy was wounded and the fronts of two shops were slightly damaged.

One attack occurred near a Civil Guard precinct, where a 14-year-old boy was wounded. The other two attacks occurred in downtown streets of Lima.

The attacks occurred on the Day of Heroism that had been declared by the Maoist Shining Path group to recall the death of 250 people accused of terrorism in three Lima prisons on 19 June 1986.

Just before these attacks in Lima, the Shining Path group carried out a propaganda campaign using an aerostatic balloon with the legend "Long Live the Day of Heroism" written on it.

According to press reports, the balloon was seen in the neighborhood of San Marcos University, which police consider to be one of the Shining Path's main recruiting centers and which recently has been the center of frequent student disturbances.

The balloon disintegrated a few minutes after it had been launched and the pieces fell on the roofs of houses in the neighborhood.

After tonight's explosions, police tightened security in the downtown area of Lima. Lima was already under strict security due to the red alert that the country's security forces are operating under.

The red alert was established due to Shining Path's Day of Heroism because it was thought that there would be an escalation of terrorism as a result of the capture last week of Osman Morote, who according to the police is the Shining Path's Number two leader.

300 Strikers Detained on 1st Day of Strike

PY1906003988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0441 GMT 18 Jun 88

[Text] Lima, 17 Jun (EFE)—Union sources have reported that some 300 workers were detained today on the first day of an indefinite strike by civil construction workers.

Strike leaders have reported that the strike will continue and that they are not frightened by the detention of their colleagues.

The first day of the strike for better salaries included some incidents on the streets. Barricades and bonfires blocked traffic on strategic routes into Lima.

Union leaders reported that approximately 200,000 civil construction workers joined the strike "en masse."

Meanwhile, a strike by Peruvian public school teachers is in its 10th consecutive day without an apparent solution despite negotiations being carried out with the government.

On Friday, 18,000 Transport and Communications Ministry workers began a strike. Police used tear-gas grenades to disperse a group of these workers.

The strike in the transport and communications sector prompted an incident today at the ministry when leftist Deputy Cristala Constantinides slapped, scratched, and kicked a policeman who asked her to identify herself.

The deputy wanted to enter the office of Transport and Communications Minister General Francisco Maury Lopez and claimed she did not have to identify herself, according to reliable sources at the ministry, who cited regulations governing entry to official places.

Uruguay

Cuban Official To Iron Out 'Delicate' Situation

PY2006133088 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0257 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Montevideo, 19 Jun (EFE)—Today Cuban Deputy Minister Ricardo Alarcon arrived in Montevideo to try to overcome the diplomatic incident that Cuban Ambassador to Uruguay Joaquin Mas Martinez caused when he criticized parts of Uruguay's foreign policy during a reception.

Alarcon said: "What is most important is the permanent and fruitful relations that the two countries have developed in the last few years." He stressed that he will meet with Uruguayan Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano "starting tomorrow" to discuss "ways to improve our relations."

Alarcon arrived in Uruguay 1 week after Cuban Ambassador Mas Martinez was recalled to Havana "for consultations."

Mas Martinez engaged in a "heated" argument with Uruguayan Defense Minister Hugo Medina at the British Embassy after the ambassador criticized Uruguayan foreign policy.

The Uruguayan foreign minister said the incident was "quite delicate," pointing out that "relations between the states are established, regulated, and determined by international conventions, such as the Vienna Convention and other treaties, and also by common sense."

Today the daily LA MANANA wrote that there have been problems with the Cuban ambassador "since the time Enrique Iglesias was foreign minister." Iglesias is the current president of the IDB. The daily added: "Ambassador Mas Martinez expressed attitudes and made public statements that annoyed Uruguayan officials."

This week Uruguay for the second time presented a note of protest to the Cuban Foreign Ministry over Mas Martinez' attitude.

The independent weekly BUSQUEDA has reported that the first note was sent secretly during Iglesias' administration—March 1985 to April 1988. This note was also in protest of Mas Martinez' attitude, which was "repeatedly in conflict with diplomatic and protocol norms."

Mas Martinez was the first Cuban diplomatic official accredited to Uruguay after the two countries resumed diplomatic relations in October 1985.

Cuba and Uruguay broke relations on 8 September 1964, after the Uruguayan Government accepted an OAS recommendation to isolate Fidel Castro's regime.

Guyana

First Crop Sugar Production Below Target

FL1506213088 Bridgetown CANA in English 2043 GMT 15 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Georgetown, Guyana, June 15, CANA—The Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco) has closed its first crop for this year at 4,400 tons below the revised target of 80,000 tonnes.

The performance of the first crop was unsatisfactory, the corporation said in a press release announcing the closure of the crop.

The corporation reported, however, that in spite of the shortfall, has been able to meet its current marketing commitments to the European Community. It said its U.S. quota will be met during the second crop.

The corporation's production of 75,600 tonnes of sugar during the first crop was the lowest in recent years. Last year, for example, production recorded during the first crop was 93,815 tonnes while in 1986 it was 124,475 tonnes and in 1986 [as received] it was 114,230 tonnes.

Guysuco had originally planned to produce 97,000 tonnes during this year's first crop. However, the crop was affected by an unusual prolonged dry spell which lasted more than four months and by a three-week strike by sugar workers over annual production incentive (API) payments and the corporation was forced to revise its target downwards.

Industry sources said the state-owned company which has embarked on a multi-million dollar diversification programme, is hardly likely to be able to meet the year's revised target of 216,700 tonnes.

It had set itself a target of 136,700 tonnes for the second crop. [passage omitted]

Advisory Environmental Council Established

FL1706205288 Bridgetown CANA in English 1903 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 17, CANA—The Guyana Government has announced the establishment of an Advisory Environmental Council (AEC), in a move being seen here as possibly laying the foundation for the implementation of proposals for a controversial electricity cogeneration project.

The council has been established in the Ministry of Medical Education, Environment, and Food Policy which is to be reorganised shortly to function as an agency.

According to an official statement announcing the establishment of the council, the AEC will monitor the environmental impact of the various sectors on each other and generally.

It will be headed by attorney at law and minister within the Ministry of Medical Education, Environment, and Food Policy, Jailall Kissoon.

The announcement listed four specific objectives for the AEC:

—To coordinate the sectoral policies and programmes of related ministries and agencies in environmental activities that will contribute to substainable development;

—To assist with legislative changes;

—To establish an information system; and

—To liaise with regional (Caribbean) and international agencies such as the United Nations Environmental Programmem (UNEP) and the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI).

The council will comprise representatives from the Medical Education, Environment, and Food Policy Ministry, the Ministries of Agriculture, Communications and Works, Forestry, Health, and Trade and Tourism, the University of Guyana, the Institute of Applied Science and Technology (IAST), Guyana Natural Resources Agency, Guyana Sugar Corporation, Guyana Water Authority, Georgetown City Council, the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Guyana Manufacturers Association.

It was also explained that as the council develops, it may be considered necessary to coopt members from other relevant fields that may assist in the effective monitoring, maintaining, and preserving a healthy environment.

The setting up of the council has come in the midst of a nine-month-old controversy surrounding proposals by the Guyana Resource Corporation (GRC) to use mainly imported industrial by-products (waste) as fuel to generate electricity.

The GRC is a joint venture company in which the Guyana Government owns about one-third of the shares and two U.S. investors the remaining portion.

Both the opposition Peoples Progressive Party (PPP) and Working Peoples Alliance are opposed to the project which they say would pose serious health and environmental risks. Both parties have been staging increasingly vociferous campaigns against the proposals.

The GRC however maintains that while the project and a number of other programmes it proposes to become involved in will bring a lot of significant benefits to Guyana—including both earnings and savings in hard currency—the risks are minimal.

For its part, the government says it has been studying the proposals for more that a year and would grant its approval only if it is satisfied that the project could be implemented safety. It is reportedly now reviewing an environmental impact assessment study recently submitted by the U.S. investors.

Suriname

Brazilian Delegation Departs After Debt Talks

FL1706181488 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] A Brazilian delegation which held discussions with the Suriname Government for 2 days yesterday returned home.

The delegation, which has among others discussed Suriname's debt to Brazil, was headed by former Brazilian ambassador to Suriname, Mr (Lamprea).

According to statements from the Ministry of Finance, Suriname owes Brazil some 7 million U.S. dollars.

At the end of this month, a Surinamese delegation will go to Brazil for further negotiations on the rescheduling of payments. If Suriname and Brazil reach an agreement, the pressure on the foreign currency reserves will be eased and through this the state can meet other necessary obligations.

Creditors Agree to Debt Restructuring Proposal

FL2006224388 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Suriname has recaptured its credit worthiness in the world. This was stated by Finance and Planning Minister Soebhas Mungra last Friday.

Recently, Mungra attended the meeting of the Caribbean group for economic development, which was held in the United States of America.

Mungra said that creditors have agreed to Suriname's proposal for the restructuring of its debt burden. Arrangements have been made with Brazil and Venezuela for the [words indistinct] of loan conditions.

Countries are looking for possibilities to help Suriname.

Vice President of the World Bank [name indistinct] told Minister Mungra that the World Bank will not interfere in the development treaty issue between [name indistinct] and Suriname.

Minister Expects More Financial Support

FL2006234388 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] Many countries have again opened their doors to Suriname and this country can again expect much support in the financial economic field from other countries.

This was stated by Foreign Minister Eddy Sedoc last Friday during a press conference.

He said through a decision by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, an end has come to the American idea that Suriname has a Marxist-Leninist policy. Sedoc told the press that Suriname has now again been totally accepted by the United States of America through which measures have again been open to the country.

On his recent trip abroad, Minister Sedoc also visited Cuba where he attended the meeting of the Nonaligned Movement on disarmament.

Assembly Asks Government To Improve Conditions

FL1606184588 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 16 Jun 88

[Text] The National Assembly has yesterday passed a motion in which the government is being asked to improve the living conditions of the people and to stop the sale of Suriname's (?currency) to nationals who are not in the country.

The first motion calls on the government to efficiently tackle the bad social-economic situation which already exists for [words indistinct].

Assembly member of the [words indistinct] clarified the second motion by stating that Surinamese abroad have agents in Suriname selling foreign currency on the black market and with this money, land is being bought.

In the motion, the government is asked to take the necessary steps to stem the sale of Suriname's [words indistinct].

Amends Opium Law

FL1706201188 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] The opium law which was introduced in Suriname for the first time in 1928 has last Wednesday been changed by the National Assembly. The change consists mainly of additions in relation to the use of the coca leaf and its derivatives. The law will decide which institution may not build an amount of the drug.

The clerk of the National Assembly told our newsroom this morning that the adaptation also consists of sanctions on a great number of [words indistinct] which are possible in this field.

Discussion on this project was last week postponed after problems arose regarding duplication by [words indistinct] the introduction and signing of the bill.

Lachmon Urges Special Import Exchange Rates

FL1706184088 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 17 Jun 88

[Text] Assembly Chairman Lachmon and other representatives of the Front [for Development and Democracy] in the National Assembly have Wednesday pointed out that special exchange rates must be asked for the import of goods without foreign currency transfer (?for the) so-called EA imports.

A proposal has been made to ask 3 Surinamese guilders for 1 Dutch guilder and 6 Surinamese guilders for 1 U.S. dollar.

Goods which are considered a basic necessity must, however, be imported due to [words indistinct] foreign currency, according to the Assembly member.

Suriname needs 20 million U.S. dollars per month to cover the costs of basic necessities but it can supply only 12 million per month.

Assembly member (Frank Plesan) said, because of this matter, the new financial group will be (?merged).

Among the traders there is competition and the National Assembly will be used as an instrument to set aside their interests, said (Plesan).

Organization on Lachmon Remarks on Transfers

FL2106004388 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] The [name indistinct] organization will not allow state officials to be threatened by any authorities.

This is contained in a statement by the organization in relation to remarks made by the Assembly chairman [Jaggernath Lachmon] that government officials who are not loyal should be transferred.

The organization is against discussing state officials in the Assembly since these persons can't get the opportunity to react at the same level. The organization says it's the duty of the government to put on record certain officials who don't function properly and not the Assembly. According to the organization, the law gives the government enough possibilities to make corrections if officials don't work properly.

Suralco Workers Sign Agreement With Company

FL2106004888 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 20 Jun 88

[Text] The Board of Directors of the Suriname Aluminum Company [Suralco] and the trade unions of the company have last Thursday signed a new collective labor agreement.

The agreement will run for 2 years and (?includes) many improvements for the Suralco workers.

Chairman of the Moengo Mineworkers Union, which also operates at Suralco, Mr (Baynu), stated that this collective labor agreement is totally different from the previous ones because only Surinamese participated in the negotiations and have worked toward the signing of the document.

The improved working conditions will mean extra costs for the company but these must be covered by the maximum input by the workers.

The new collective labor agreement must be a guarantee for industrial peace within the company for the next 2 years during which all attention will be paid to the restructuring of the country.

Union Elected To Represent Victoria Workers

FL1606193188 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 16 Jun 88

[Text] The union board which is headed by (Franklin Freider) at the palm oil company Victoria was yesterday swept into power following elections there. This has brought to an end the conflict between two rival unions with both claiming the right to represent the workers of the company.

A judge had previously rejected the claim by the board headed by (Franklin Freider) against the former board headed by (Shul Freider).

The legal board was then ordered to organize elections at the company, and this took place yesterday with the help of the National Mediation Council.

The conflict had brought production at the company to a standstill for 3 weeks causing damages to the tune of more than half a million guilders.